



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**AMERICAN POWs/MIAs IN  
SOUTHEAST ASIA  
(SUMMARY)**

**PART 19 OF 26**

**FILE NUMBER : 100-457899**

SUBJECT

POW / MIA

FILE NUMBER

100-457899

Vol 9

The following documents appearing in FBI files have been reviewed under the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552), The Privacy Act of 1974 (PA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a), and or Litigation

3-1-77  
FOIA/PA ☒ Litigation ☐ Executive Order Applied  
Requester FOIA/PA DOCUMENT REVIEW PRESIDENTIAL SELECT COMMITTEE  
Subject N/A 68692  
Computer or Case Identification Number 100-457899 Section 9  
Title of Case 177 only  
Serials Reviewed 01/20/75 MEMO + LHM

Release Location \*File Discovery Legal Techniques Section [REDACTED]  
FOIA/PA ☒ Litigation ☐ Executive Order Applied  
b2c  
EO 12812-2

Requester \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_  
Computer or Case Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_  
\*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_  
Serials Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location \*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

FOIA/PA ☐ Litigation ☐ Executive Order Applied

Requester \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_  
Computer or Case Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_  
\*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_  
Serials Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location: \*File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

\*INDICATE IF FBIHQ OR FIELD OFFICE FILE NUMBER.

(THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.)

ALL 67C R2 12/12-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

12/1/70

TELETYPE

CONFIDENTIAL

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Brennan
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Walters
- Mr. Soyars
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

NR002 BY CODE  
215 AM URGENT 11-14-70  
TO DIRECTOR (100-457899)

ATT, DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

CHICAGO

WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM NEW YORK (100-168469)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM), IS-MISC,  
REGISTRATION ACT, DO-NY:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/28/83 BY 963  
COLIFAM FILE 12811

[REDACTED]

Classified by 105N  
Exempt from GDS, Category  
Date of Declassification  
REC 16 EX-102

RENYTEL, NOVEMBER TWELVE, LAST.  
RENYTEL CONCERNED PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON NOVEMBER  
THIRTEEN INSTANT, BY COLIFAM.

100-407899-171

ON NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, INSTANT, AT ELEVEN TWENTY AM.  
COLIFAM HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE IN THE HOTEL DIPLOMAT, NYC.

END PAGE ONE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

54 NOV 2 1970

TO MR. TOLSON

NOV 19 1970

CONFIDENTIAL



PAGE TWO

A SOURCE WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, ADVISED DAVE DELLINGER AND CORA <sup>F!</sup>WISS, CO-CHAIRMAN OF COLIFAM, AS WELL AS RENNIE DAVIS, A MEMBER OF COLIFAM COMMITTEE, PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING NEWS RELEASE,

"FOUR ADDED TO LIST OF CONFIRMED POW'S, FAMILIES RECEIVE FIVE SEVEN ONE LETTERS". THE SUBSTANCE OF THE NEWS RELEASE CONTAINED FOUR NAMES OF POWS NOT PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED, JOHN H. FELLOWES, SERIAL NUMBER SIX ZERO THREE NINE EIGHT THREE, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA, BEN MARKSBURY POLLARD, SERIAL NUMBER FR FIVE THREE EIGHT SEVEN NINE TWO, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, GEORGE EVERETTE DAY, SERIAL NUMBER FR FOUR NINE FIVE FIVE FIVE, GLENDALE, ARIZONA, AND JAMES J. CONNELL, SERIAL NUMBER SIX FOUR SEVEN FOUR THREE EIGHT. THE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL OF FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY ONE LETTERS FROM POWS BROUGHT TO THE UNITED STATES BY PROFESSOR SIDNEY PECK OF CAMBRIDGE. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT SIX PILOTS DIED IN CAPTURE. ACCORDING TO THE NEWS RELEASE, THE UNITED STATES MILITARY HAS INFORMED THE FAMILIES. NO IDENTITIES OF THE DECEASED WERE REVEALED. THE NAMES

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

OF TEN PILOTS<sup>Lo</sup> WITH WHOM THE COLIFAM SOUGHT CONFIRMATION FOR THEIR CAPTURE HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED AS NOT CAPTURED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE.

DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SHIPMENT OF PACKAGES AND MAIL TO THE POW WAS INCLUDED IN THE PRESS RELEASE.

COLIFAM ANNOUNCED THAT IN TWO WEEKS A DELEGATION WOULD BE LEAVING FOR NORTH VIETNAM AND COLIFAM EXPRESSED ITS WILLINGNESS TO CARRY MAIL TO THE POWS.

COLIFAM HANDED OUT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE A COPY OF THEIR NEWS RELEASE, A COPY OF THE STATEMENT <sup>From</sup> ~~FORM~~ THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CONCERNING THEIR POLICIES TOWARD THE AMERICAN PILOTS CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM, ON THE OCCASION OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS, NINETEEN SEVENTY ONE, AS WELL AS A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT JAMES SCHWEITZER, FIVE SEVEN ONE EIGHT NINE FOUR, COMMANDER, UNITED STATES NAVY, TO HIS SON ERIC. IN ADDITION, COLIFAM FURNISHED A LISTING OF THREE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE NAMES OF POWS

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED BY HANOI DATED APRIL THIRTY, LAST.

ADMINISTRATIVE

SOURCES UTILIZED [REDACTED] b2c

LOCAL AGENCIES ADVISED. QU

LHM WILL FOLLOW. b2c

PRESS CONFERENCE WAS RECORDED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DETAILS OF WHICH WILL BE INCORPORATED

IN THE LHM. QU b2c

END

REM FI E WASH

ALL 67C 152 27 12812-2

OLIVE TOSSEN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL b7c PER EO 12812-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 12 1970

TELETYPE

~~SECRET~~

NR38 NY CODE

838PM URGENT 11-12-70 AJN

TO DIRECTOR 100-457899

ATTN DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
FROM NEW YORK 100-168469

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803  
7/23/93  
CN3451570 Pw/MIA per EO 12812

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED  
IN NORTH VIETNAM; (COLIFAM) IS-MISC; REGISTRATION ACT; OO-NEW YORK.  
Internal Security-Miscellaneous

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU ELEVEN TWELVE INSTANT.

[REDACTED] COLIFAM IS CONDUCTING NEWS CONFERENCE  
AT DIPLOMAT HOTEL, NYC, ELEVEN AM, ELEVEN THIRTEEN NEXT. \$u

SOURCE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL WHICH WOULD COMPOSE  
NEWS CONFERENCE. MATERIAL WILL BE RELEASED BY CORA WEISS AND DAVE  
DELLINGER, CO-CHAIRMAN OF COLIFAM. \$u

ONE. FOLLOWING RECORDING WILL BE PLAYED. \$u  
END PAGE ONE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

REC-22

EX-102

NOV 17 1970

54 NOV 23 1970

Classified by 1259  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

APPROPRIATE AG  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLAW  
12-14-72

PAGE TWO

"HERE'S A RECORDED MESSAGE FROM HOME COMMANDER ROBERT JAMES SCHWEITZER, US PILOT CAPTURED IN THE DRVN.  
FROM; ROBERT JAMES SCHWEITZER FIVE SEVEN ONE EIGHT NINE FOUR,  
COMMANDER, USN, CAMP OF DETENTION FOR US PILOTS DETAINED IN THE DRVN.  
TO; MASTER ERIC ROBERT SCHWEITZER, ONE ZERO SIX DAUNTLESS AVENUE  
NAVAL AIR STATION, LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA, NINE THREE TWO SIX FIVE USA.  
DEAR ERIC, Xu

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SON. FROM YOUR LATEST PICTURE I CAN SEE THAT  
YOUR ARE GROWING QUICKLY. I HOPE YOU AND KARL ARE ACTIVE IN  
SCOUTS AND SPORTS AND ARE DOING YOUR VERY BEST IN SCHOOL. TRY TO  
UNDERSTAND YOU STUDIES WELL AND LEARN GOOD READING HABITS. I'M SURE  
YOUR ARE HELPING YOUR MOTHER AND BEING A GOOD BROTHER. THERE ARE  
MANY THINGS WE WILL DO TOGETHER WHEN I COME HOME. CALL GRANDMA  
SCHWEITZER AND WISH HER A  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR ME TOO. I LOVE YOU AND AM PROUD OF YOU. HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY.

DAD

NOVEMBER TWO, NINETEEN SEVENTY  
VOICE OF VIETNAM  
ENGLISH TRANSMISSION"  
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TWO. FOLLOWING STATEMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WILL BE RELEASED;

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE HUMANITARIAN POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TOWARD THE AMERICAN  
PILOTS CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM, ON THE OCCASION OF CHRISTMAS  
AND NEW YEAR NINETEEN SEVENTY ONE;

IT IS PERMITTED TO THE FAMILIES OF THE AMERICAN PILOTS  
CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM TO SEND CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR  
PACKAGES OF FIVE KGS EACH ( USUALLY PACKAGES OF THREE KGS ARE  
ALLOWED). SENDING OF PACKAGES MUST OBSERVE THE USUAL REGULATIONS,  
BY POSTAL ROUTE THROUGH MOSCOW. ANY OTHER MEANS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE. 7

CHRISTMAS<sup>S</sup> AND NEW YEAR CARDS MAY BE SENT TO AMERICAN  
PILOTS CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM FROM THEIR FAMILIES WITH  
THE HELP OF THE COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM. THE SAID COMMITTEE MAY SEND ITS  
REPRESENTATIVE TO BRING THESE CARDS DIRECTLY TO HANOI.

WE REQUEST THE COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF  
SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM TO TIMELY INFORM THE  
FAMILIES OF AMERICAN PILOTS CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM OF THE  
AFOREMENTIONED POINTS.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

THREE. SOURCE FURTHER STATED THAT WEISS AND DELLINGER WOULD REFER IN THEIR CONFERENCE TO "TEXT OF THE VIETCONG PROPOSAL AT TALKS IN PARIS", CARRIED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER EIGHTEEN, NINETEEN SEVENTY. HE FURTHER ADDED THAT SUFFICIENT COPIES OF THIS ARTICLE AS WELL AS PRINTED COPIES OF THE RECORDING OF ROBERT JAMES SCHWEITZER AND THE DRV STATEMENT WILL BE HANDED OUT.

FOUR. COLIFAM WILL ANOUNCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF MAILING NEW LETTERS TO THE POW RELATIVES WHICH WERE RECEIVED RECENTLY BY A GROUP FROM COLIFAM.

FIVE. LASTLY, COLIFAM INTENDS TO DISTRIBUTE XEROXED LETTERS FROM THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM DATED ELEVEN FOUR SEVENTY, IN SUPPORT OF UPCOMING CONFERENCE ON ELEVEN TWENTY EIGHT-THIRTY, NINETEEN SEVENTY.

SOURCE STATED HE IS UNAWARE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL DISCLOSE NEW NAMES OF POW'S.

END PAGE FOUR

u  
\$

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE FIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE

62-EO 12812-2

SOURCE UTILIZED IS [REDACTED] \$u

IN THE EVENT THAT THIS INFORMATION IS DISSEMINATED,  
IT SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED ~~SECRET~~, SINCE DISCLOSURE OF SAME  
WOULD GREATLY ENDANGER THE FUTURE EFFECTIVENESS OF SOURCE. \$u

DUE TO THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE SOURCE, NO LOCAL  
DISSEMINATION IS BEING MADE. \$u

NEW YORK WILL FOLLOW AND PROMPTLY ADVISE.

LHM WILL FOLLOW.  
memo

END

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 11/14/70

Attached pertains to press conference held by Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM), on 11/13/70, New York City. COLIFAM representatives, in a news release, announced names of Prisoners of War (POWs) not previously published, and deaths of six unnamed pilots. COLIFAM, in addition, announced that a delegation to depart for North Vietnam in two weeks would carry mail to POWs.

Information in attached has been disseminated to Dr. Henry A. Kissinger at the White House, State Department, Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency and the military. Copy has also been sent Attorney General by messenger.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

ALL b7C PER EO 12812-2

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAVANNAH</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE <b>11/16/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>9/15 - 11/12/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA [REDACTED] b7c</b>	TYPE <b>[REDACTED]</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - MISCELLANEOUS; REGISTRATION ACT</b>	

**REFERENCES:** San Antonio letter to Bureau dated 8/27/70.  
Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 9/22/70 at  
Columbia.  
Bureau letter to Albany dated 10/12/70. *b7c*

- P -

LEADSBIRMINGHAM DIVISIONAT [REDACTED] ALA.Interview Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] *b7c*MIAMI DIVISION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] *b7c*

FOUO/MR. [REDACTED] EO 12812 CN345510

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED [REDACTED] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

- 8 - Bureau (100-487899) (RM)
- 2 - Birmingham (RM)
- 2 - Miami (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-168469) (RM)
- 2 - Tampa (RM)
- 2 - Savannah (100-5361)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

12 NOV 18 1970

REG 11

EX-102

## Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	WAC-IDD
Request Recd.	
Date Fwd.	11/25/70
How Fwd.	7/5
By	[REDACTED]

Notations

COVER PAGE

ALL b7c PER EO 12812-2

SV 100-8361

AT [REDACTED] FLA. b2c b7c

If not already done, interview [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] FLA. b2c

Interview [REDACTED]

TAMPA DIVISION

AT [REDACTED] FLA. b7c

Interview [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] FLA.

Interview [REDACTED] b7c

AT [REDACTED] FLA. b2c

Interview [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] FLA. b2c

Interview Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] FLA. b7c

Interview Mrs. [REDACTED]

SAVANNAH DIVISION

AT [REDACTED] GA. b2c b7c

1. Will locate and interview Mrs. [REDACTED]

2. Will locate and interview Mrs. [REDACTED]

-B-  
(Cover Page)

ALL b7c PER EO 12812-2

SV 100-5361

ADMINISTRATIVE

The list of names of next of kin of servicemen who are listed as missing in action, set forth herein, was obtained at Fort Stewart, Ga., and it is not known if these individuals have been interviewed. Leads set out to the various offices to interview these individuals should be handled only if appropriate.

-C\*-  
(Cover Page)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:  
Date:SA [REDACTED] b7c  
November 16, 1970

Office: Savannah

Field Office File #:

100-5361

Bureau File #: 100-457899

Title:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS;  
REGISTRATION ACT b7c

Synopsis:

b7c Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] who formerly resided at [REDACTED] new reside [REDACTED] Ala. Mrs. [REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED] who has been missing in action in Vietnam, since 1968, has received no indications nor communications indicating her husband is a prisoner of war. She was contacted by letter in November, 1969, by the Committee of Liaison With Families Of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM). She was never contacted personally by any individual in COLIFAM and received only one letter. This letter indicated COLIFAM could deliver personal letters to servicemen detained in North Vietnam. She sent one letter addressed to her husband through COLIFAM, but never received reply. She has all her records presently packed but will make a search for any correspondence from COLIFAM. She advised a [REDACTED] and a [REDACTED] who reside in [REDACTED] Ga., also have husbands missing in action in Vietnam. Attempts to contact [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] negative to date. List of area servicemen listed as missing in action with name and address of next of kin furnished by Fort Stewart, Ga. b7c

- P -

DETAILS:

All b7c PER ED 12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED b7c  
DATE 7/28/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

POW/MIA, E.O. 12812  
CN345,570

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SV 100-5361  
NY 100-168462

NI 170 RE 12812-2

**b7c**  
On September 18, 1970, **[REDACTED]** WATSON, Adjutant General, United States Army Flight Training Center, (USAFTC), Hunter Army Airfield (HAAF), Savannah, Georgia, advised HAAF maintains no record of servicemen detained in Vietnam or missing in action; however, he will make inquiries to determine if such a list is maintained at Ft. Stewart, Georgia, which is also under the command of the USAFTC. He will advise of the results of his efforts as soon as possible.

**b7c** **[REDACTED]** Criminal Investigation Detachment (CID), HAAF, Savannah, advised that no information concerning this matter has come to his attention.

On October 15, 1970, Lieutenant Colonel WATSON advised that a file is maintained in the Casualty Branch, Ft. Stewart, Georgia, on all personnel listed as prisoners of war or as missing in action. Lieutenant KEMPER should be contacted at the Casualty Branch for any information desired.



SV 100-5361  
NY 100-168469

AN 6X 102 ED 17212-2

b7c  
The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] at [redacted] Georgia, on September 30, 1970: b2c

Mrs. [redacted] Georgia, advised that Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] had formerly lived at [redacted] but had moved from that address in the spring of 1970. She advised they now reside at [redacted] Alabama, telephone [redacted] b2c

She said that Mr. [redacted] formerly worked at [redacted] in [redacted] but is now retired. b2c

SV 100-5361  
New York 100-168469

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

On September 29, 1970, Mr. [redacted] advised that Mrs. [redacted] had moved to Florida, address unknown. Mrs. [redacted] said [redacted] Realty Company handled the sale of Mrs. [redacted] residence and might possibly know Mrs. [redacted] forwarding address.

On September 30, 1970, Mr. [redacted] Realty Company, advised he did not have Mrs. [redacted] forwarding address, but that Mrs. [redacted] parents, Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] reside at [redacted] Georgia.

On October 7, 1970, Mr. [redacted] advised that his daughter, Mrs. [redacted] now resides at [redacted] Florida.

On October 13, 1970, Mrs. [redacted] telephonically contacted the Savannah FBI Office and advised she is presently at her parents' home and will be available for interview on October 13, 1970.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c PER ED 12812-2

Date October 15, 1970

Mrs. [REDACTED]  
Georgia, furnished the following information:

Her husband, [REDACTED] has been "missing in action" in Vietnam since July 28, 1968. She has received no indications nor communications indicating that he is a prisoner of war or that he is still alive.

She was contacted by letter on approximately November 12, 1969, by the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM). She was never contacted personally by any individual in COLIFAM and to the best of her knowledge, received only one letter.

This letter, to the best of her knowledge, indicated this committee could deliver personal letters to servicemen detained in North Vietnam. The letter requested that letters addressed to servicemen in North Vietnam be placed in an envelope addressed to the serviceman and then placed in another envelope addressed to the individual mentioned in the COLIFAM letter. Mrs. [REDACTED] cannot recall the name of the individual to which the letter was to be addressed. She sent one letter addressed to her husband to this individual, but never received a reply from her husband, nor any other communications from COLIFAM. She believes the letter received from COLIFAM had a letterhead, but cannot remember names on the letterhead nor who signed it. The letter mentioned that representatives were going into North Vietnam and would take these letters addressed to servicemen. She believes this group was working through a group in Switzerland, but cannot recall any specific details.

Mrs. [REDACTED] knows of no other families that were contacted by COLIFAM, but advised that a [REDACTED] who lives on [REDACTED] has a husband who is missing in action. [REDACTED] who resides at the [REDACTED] has a husband missing in action in Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] does not recall ever hearing these persons mention COLIFAM.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12-19-89 BY 1042

EX-104 100-108462

On 10/15/70

GEORGIA

File # Savannah 100-5381

by

10/15/70

The only correspondence from COLIFAM was the one letter mentioned above and this letter did not ask for an answer. The letter merely directed that any letters to servicemen be sent to the indicated address and they, COLIFAM, would take it into North Vietnam. She has never received any further information or inquiries concerning this.

Mrs. [redacted] has been living in Florida and is presently in a transient state, being undecided whether to again live in [redacted]. All of her records are presently packed and she is not sure she has the letter mentioned above from COLIFAM. She will make a search through her records for any correspondence concerning this matter and if any is found she will furnish same.

Due to her rather transient state, she could best be contacted at the address listed above, which is the home of her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. [redacted]. She intends to possibly return to Florida to live, but has not yet decided in what city she will live and does not know her address. b7c

She stated she is willing to cooperate in any manner concerning this matter and will furnish any information coming to her attention regarding this. She will be happy to testify in this matter if requested.

All b7c per EO 12812-2

SV 100-8361

<sup>b7c</sup>  
The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]

<sup>b7c</sup>  
AT [REDACTED] GA.

On October 15, 1970, Second Lieutenant WILLIAM KEMPTON, Officer in Charge, Casualty Branch, Military Personnel Office, advised that his office maintains no official Prisoner of War (POW) list regarding servicemen held in North Vietnam inasmuch as the North Vietnamese have never released a list of prisoners held. Lieutenant KEMPTON stated his office does maintain a list of Army personnel noted as missing in action and this list encompasses those servicemen whose families are now living in portions of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Lieutenant KEMPTON furnished a copy of Fort Stewart Regulation 600-18 dated June 27, 1967 which on Pages 2 and 3 lists the counties in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida which are covered by his office exclusively for U. S. Army personnel.

Lieutenant KEMPTON furnished the following list of individuals by rank and service number who are listed as missing in action, the name and address of their primary next of kin, and the date they were missing in action:

BAILLY, JAMES ALBERT  
CW4, 176-32-5894  
Wife - [REDACTED]

Missing In Action 10/9/69

LA BOHN, GARY RUSSELL  
SP4, RA 16931557  
Father - [REDACTED]

Missing In Action 11/30/68

LINK, ROBERT CHARLES  
WO1, 577 46 6449  
Wife - [REDACTED]

Missing In Action 4/21/68

LORD, ARTHUR J.  
Captain, 05406301  
Wife - [REDACTED]

b7c

Missing In Action 4/19/68

MC MILLAN, ISIAH  
SP4, 265-66-3932  
Wife - [REDACTED]

b7c

Missing In Action 3/11/68.

NEAL, DENNIS PAUL  
Captain, 264 70 1714  
Parents - Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]

b7c

Missing In Action 7/31/69

PARSELS, JOHN W.  
Captain, 262-69-0822  
Sons - [REDACTED]

b7c

Missing In Action 2/5/70

PFORDT, CHARLES C.  
CW2, W315068  
Wife - [REDACTED]

b7c

Missing In Action 5/19/69

POWERS, LOWELL STEPHEN  
CW2, W3160262  
Mother - [REDACTED]

b7c

Missing In Action 4/3/69

All b7c M2 ED 12P12-2

SV 100-5361

WILLIAMS, EDDIE L.  
M/Sgt., RA 14445648  
Mother - [REDACTED] b2c

Missing In Action 10/3/66

Lieutenant KEMPTON stated with regard to LORD and PFORDT, whose next of kin live in [REDACTED] Georgia, both have indicated they have seen their husbands on films which have been released by the North Vietnamese. b7c

AT [REDACTED] GA. b7c

On November 4, 1970, attempt was made to locate Mrs. [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. It was ascertained that Mrs. [REDACTED] does not reside at this address. b7c

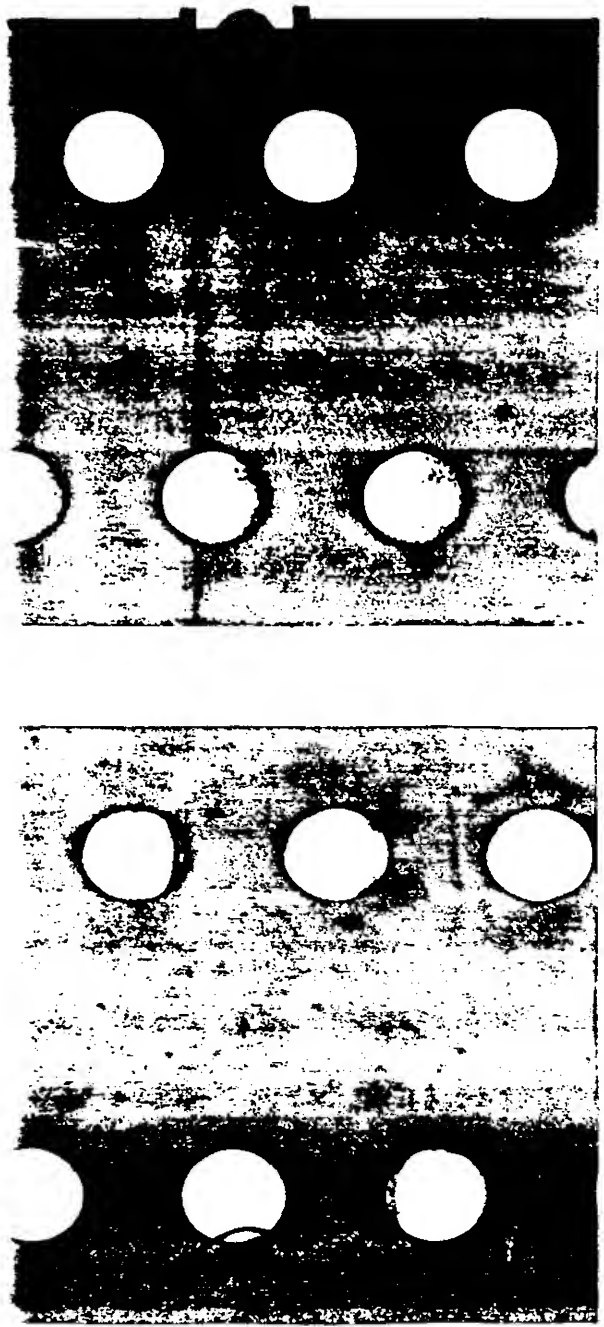
On November 4, 1970, it was ascertained at the U. S. Post Office, Waters Avenue Branch, that Mrs. [REDACTED] is presently residing at [REDACTED]. b7c

b7c On November 10, 1970, attempt was made to contact Mrs. [REDACTED] at this address with negative results.

A search of the [REDACTED] Telephone Directory and the City Directory reflected a Mrs. [REDACTED] and a [REDACTED] Georgia. b7c

On November 10 and 12, 1970, attempts were made to contact Mrs. [REDACTED] at this address with negative results. b7c





Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 11-12-70

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Attached received from one of our sources and relates that the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) plan to hold a press conference in New York City on 11-13-70. During the conference they will play a recorded birthday message from a captured American pilot to his son. In addition, they will announce regulations under which families of captured American pilots may send Christmas packages and letters to captured American pilots in North Vietnam. *Su*

Information in attached has been disseminated by teletype to Dr. Henry A. Kissinger at the White House, State Department, Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency and the military. Copy has also been sent Attorney General by messenger (U)

*b7c*  
*b7c*  
*b7c*  
DECLASSIFIED BY 9803  
ON 7/23/93  
POW/MIA/du E.O. 12812  
CN345510  
Classified by 1259  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
*10-2-78*  
*b7c*  
~~SECRET~~

All b7c per EO 12812-2

All b7c PER ED 12812-2

**TREAT AS YELLOW**

FBI

Date: 11/17/70

☐ IMMEDIATETransmit the message that follows by coded teletype: ☐ URGENT **PRIORITY**

\*\*\*\*\*

TO: ☐ THE PRESIDENT**FIELD DISSEMINATION**☐ THE VICE PRESIDENT☐ ATT.:☒ WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM☐ ATT.: DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER <sup>WHS 570</sup> <sup>MIA/POW</sup> <sup>7/25/93 9803RD/8-10 AM</sup>☒ SECRETARY OF STATE☒ DIRECTOR, CIA☒ DIRECTOR, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY☐ AND NATIONAL INDICATIONS CENTER☒ DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY☒ DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE☒ NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE☐ U. S. SECRET SERVICE (PID)☐ ENCODED☐ PLAINTEXT☒ ATTORNEY GENERAL (BY MESSENGER) 11/10 AM☐ NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY, ATT: SENIOR OPERATION OFFICER☐

From: DIRECTOR, FBI

Classification: ~~SECRET~~

Subject:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM  
(COLIFAM)

(Text of message begins on next page.)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Brennan, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COPIES DESTROYED

21 MAR 2 0 1971

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

56 NOV 27 1970

TELETYPE UNIT ☐ Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M Per \_\_\_\_\_

CODE PRIORITY

TO: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM  
ATT.: DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER  
TO: SECRETARY OF STATE  
TO: DIRECTOR, CIA  
TO: DIRECTOR, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
TO: NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE  
TO: ATTORNEY GENERAL (BY MESSENGER)  
FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI

ALL 67c PER EO 12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803  
CN 345570 POW/MIA per EO 12812

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP  
DATE 12-14-77

~~SECRET~~

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN  
NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM).

REFERENCE IS MADE TO MY TELETYPE NOVEMBER TWELVE LAST.

ON NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, LAST, AT ELEVEN TWENTY AM, COLIFAM  
HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE IN THE HOTEL DIPLOMAT, NEW YORK CITY.

A SOURCE WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN  
THE PAST, ADVISED DAVE DELLINGER AND CORA WEISS, CO-CHAIRMEN  
OF COLIFAM, AS WELL AS RENNIE DAVIS, A MEMBER OF COLIFAM  
COMMITTEE, PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING NEWS RELEASE,

"FOUR ADDED TO LIST OF CONFIRMED POW'S, FAMILIES  
RECEIVE FIVE SEVEN ONE LETTERS". THE SUBSTANCE OF THE

END PAGE ONE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 10-2-78

67c



PAGE TWO ~~(SECRET)~~

NEWS RELEASE CONTAINED FOUR NAMES OF POWS NOT PREVIOUSLY  
PUBLISHED, JOHN H. FELLOWES, SERIAL NUMBER SIX ZERO  
THREE NINE EIGHT THREE, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA,  
BEN MARKSBURY POLLARD, SERIAL NUMBER FR FIVE THREE EIGHT  
SEVEN NINE TWO, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO,  
GEORGE EVERETTE DAY, SERIAL NUMBER FR FOUR NINE  
FIVE FIVE FIVE, GLENDALE, ARIZONA, AND JAMES J. CONNELL,  
SERIAL NUMBER SIX FOUR SEVEN FOUR THREE EIGHT. THE COMMITTEE  
ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL OF FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY ONE LETTERS  
FROM POWS BROUGHT TO THE UNITED STATES BY PROFESSOR  
SIDNEY PECK OF CAMBRIDGE. ~~It~~ <sup>That</sup> WAS ANNOUNCED THAT SIX  
PILOTS DIED IN CAPTURE. ACCORDING TO THE NEWS RELEASE,  
THE UNITED STATES MILITARY HAS INFORMED THE FAMILIES.  
NO IDENTITIES OF THE DECEASED WERE REVEALED. THE NAMES  
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE ~~(S E C R E T)~~

OF TEN PILOTS WITH WHOM THE COLIFAM SOUGHT CONFIRMATION FOR THEIR CAPTURE HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED AS NOT CAPTURED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE.

DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SHIPMENT OF PACKAGES AND MAIL TO THE POW WAS INCLUDED IN THE PRESS RELEASE.

COLIFAM ANNOUNCED THAT IN TWO WEEKS A DELEGATION WOULD BE LEAVING FOR NORTH VIETNAM AND COLIFAM EXPRESSED ITS WILLINGNESS TO CARRY MAIL TO THE POWS.

COLIFAM HANDED OUT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE A COPY OF THEIR NEWS RELEASE, A COPY OF THE STATEMENT FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CONCERNING THEIR POLICIES TOWARD THE AMERICAN PILOTS CAPTURED IN NORTH VIETNAM, ON THE OCCASION OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS, NINETEEN SEVENTY ONE, AS WELL AS A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT JAMES SCHWEITZER, FIVE SEVEN ONE EIGHT NINE FOUR, COMMANDER, UNITED STATES NAVY, TO HIS SON ERIC. IN ADDITION, COLIFAM FURNISHED A LISTING OF THREE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE NAMES OF POWS

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR ~~(S E C R E T)~~

OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED BY HANOI DATED APRIL THIRTY, LAST.

GP -1

BT

NNNN

APPROVED BY SA

END

62c

EO 12812-2

All 67C PER EO 12812-2

FBI

Date: 11/10/70

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

SECRET

AIRTEL

Via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-168469)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
IS-MISC  
REGISTRATION ACT

Classified by 763/93

Declassify on: OADR 100-457899  
FOIA 100-457899

ReButel, 11/4/70; NYtel, 11/5/70, and WFOTel,

11/6/70.

has been contacted on a daily basis since 11/4/70 in an effort to obtain the identities of the attorneys who reportedly were traveling to North Vietnam with letters for the Prisoners of War (POWs). Source stated that to date there is no activity in the old headquarters of COLIFAM nor has she heard any mention of lawyers traveling to North Vietnam.

In reference to NYtel to the Bureau dated 11/6/70 captioned, "ANGELA YVONNE DAVIS, aka-UFAP-MURDER, KIDNAPPING", reference was made to a young white attorney, according to who had been in contact with the North Vietnamese Government relative to a prisoner release for ANGELA DAVIS. Information gathered in NY showed that PETER WEISS, husband of CORA WEISS of COLIFAM, traveled with WILLIAM STANDARD to North Vietnam. To date, NY is attempting to develop any possible connection between the trips of STANDARD and WEISS with the unknown attorney who traveled in connection with the ANGELA DAVIS proposal.

Mrs. [redacted] NY, was contacted on 11/10/70 and advised the following:

(2) Bureau (RM)  
1-New York

EX-111

NOV 11 1970

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

59 NOV 23 1970

Charge \_\_\_\_\_

10-2/78

SECRET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF

12-14-70  
claw

12-14-70  
claw

NY 100-168469

~~SECRET~~ b2c  
In view of the fact that she is the wife of a POW, she received a letter from COLIFAM stating that if she desired to communicate with her husband by letter she should send the letter by 11/7/70 to COLIFAM and it would be delivered to the POWs. Mrs. [REDACTED] further advised that through her contacts with COLIFAM, she ascertained that PETER WEISS traveled to North Vietnam sometime last week. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she was not aware of the identity of the individuals bringing the letters to North Vietnam but in the letter from COLIFAM it was stated that a group of attorneys would forward the letters to the POWs.

b2c b7c  
It should be noted for the Bureau's information that Mrs. [REDACTED] has expressed a desire to be cooperative in an active way with the FBI's investigation into the COLIFAM organization. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she is in periodic telephonic contact with CORA WEISS [REDACTED]

b2c  
Investigation to date in NY reflects that COLIFAM is being operated out of the home of CORA and PETER WEISS. Attempts to obtain information concerning this organization is extremely difficult.

NY will continue its efforts to determine the identity of the attorneys traveling under COLIFAM to North Vietnam. NY will also attempt to ascertain if the attorneys mentioned in the letter received by the families of POWs could possibly be identical with WILLIAM STANDARD, PETER WEISS and the unknown white attorney from the SF area. This matter will be closely followed. (S) u

NO DISSEMINATION IS BEING MADE IN VIEW OF THE FACT OF THE SENSITIVITY OF [REDACTED] (S)

b1  
All b7c PER EO 12812-2  
All b1 PER EO 12812-1

EX-102

~~SECRET~~

FBI

Date: 11/12/70

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)  
 FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-8195) (P)  
 SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH  
 FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
 DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
 IS - MISCELLANEOUS -  
 REGISTRATION ACT  
 OO: NEW YORK

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and ten copies of a LHM dated and captioned as above and suitable for dissemination.

Two copies of the enclosed LHM are being submitted to the New York Division, which is the office of origin in this case.

Atlanta is continuing its investigation, interviewing families of servicemen who are missing in action or prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

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 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
 OTHERWISE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
 67c CN345,670 POW/MIA PUR ED 12/12

② Bureau (Enc. 11)  
 2-New York (Enc. 2)  
 2-Atlanta

AGENCY: ARMY, CNI, OSI, SEC. SER., [REDACTED]

SURE

REC-77

100-457899-476

15 NOV 16 1970

EX-103

BIAO (ISO, CRO, ED, 10/11)

DATE FORW: 11/18/70

HOW FORW: R15

59 NOV 30 1970

C C &amp; Incl 911-D

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1969 O - 346-090 (11)

AN 67c PER ED 128/2-2



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia

November 12, 1970

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN  
NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS -  
REGISTRATION ACT

On November 8, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED]  
furnished the following information:

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

POW/MIA FILE EO 12812  
CN345,570

b7c

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

-----  
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions  
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outside your agency.

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE

17

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 12, 1970

1

Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that she is the wife of [REDACTED] who is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] furnished a letter and enclosures which she received from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. b7c

b7c Mrs. [REDACTED] reiterated that she is completely opposed to the activities of the committee, even though they have made available to her letters from her husband. b7c

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

CN345570 POW/MIA pu EO 12812

On 11/8/70 at [REDACTED] Georgia File # Atlanta 100-8195 b7c

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 11/10/70 b7c

- 2 -

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All b7c PER EO 12812-2



# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Imprisoned in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036 212 (549 4478)

October 30, 1970

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Coro Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurman  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear families,

This letter is being sent to all families of confirmed prisoners of war in North Vietnam as a general information memo to respond to the many questions we have received in recent weeks. Kindly excuse the form, but so many of your concerns are similar that we thought this more efficient. We are enclosing air letters for your use. One letter a month is still allowed. Kindly seal all letters sent thru the Committee of Liaison, and staple or clip photos inside the letter form. We have no interest in seeing mail.

A delegation of lawyers is leaving shortly for a visit to the DRV. They have expressed willingness to carry mail with them. Anyone wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity should have mail in our office no later than Nov. 7. We guarantee only that the mail will arrive safely in North Vietnam and will be delivered to the appropriate authorities. We have no way of guaranteeing that the prisoners will get each letter. That is beyond our ability. However, if the mail conforms to the regulations we have no reason to doubt its delivery. We believe that from what we have been told by families, there is some delay, even risk, in sending mail thru postal routes. Much of the mail sent has obviously gotten thru, but some has been returned, or may wait for long periods for irregular flights. The Vietnamese are using hand delivery only for getting mail to the US because of the risky and unpredictable postal channels. Mail has been delayed and has taken months to arrive. They now wait for delegations to bring it.

Last month we sent 250 letters to North Vietnam with a group. All mail presently in the office will be delivered with the next group. As of now, over 1600 letters have been received since Dec. We do not know why some men have written more frequently than others. We also do not know if the list of 335 men announced in April is final for those being held by the North Vietnamese. When asked by family members, we have inquired about specific servicemen for whom there is substantial evidence of their capture. When we have a reply we will, of course, let the families know. It is our understanding that until there is some movement in Paris to respond to the proposals put forward by Mme. Binh on Sept. 17, there will be no further move vis-a-vis pow's. That is, until the two conditions are met setting a fixed date for

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POW/MIA PM EO 12812  
CW345,570

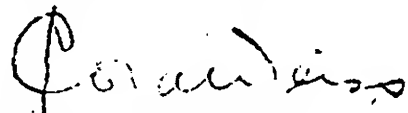
62c  
EO 12812

the total withdrawal of all US forces from Vietnam, and agreeing to withdraw support from the Thieu Ky Khiem regime, they will not be willing to discuss the prisoner issue. They have made it clear that they view this issue as part of the overall solution to the war, and it cannot be dealt with separately. Upon fixing that date and agreeing to withdraw support, prisoners from both DRV as well as those being held by the NLF in the South, will be released. They do not have to wait for the completion of withdrawal of troops.

Many articles, comics, newsletters have appeared on the subject of prisoners. We thought you might be interested in seeing the enclosed which may shed more light on this subject. Mr. Van Dyke is an international lawyer currently on staff at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Santa Barbara, Calif. He was formerly employed in the State Department working on the matter of prisoners. We send these along because they provide facts and a point of view not frequently seen in a discussion of this topic.

We appreciate being kept informed as to your changes of address, and continue to welcome your questions. We hope you continue to remember that we are here, not there, have no authority in handling prisoner affairs, and have tried to maintain a clear and efficient and reliable channel for communication between you and your sons and husbands. We look forward to the end of our task, for that will represent America's agreement to conclude the war and the release of the prisoners.

Sincerely yours



Mrs. Cora Weiss

P.S. We expect other delegations will be invited to North Vietnam in December and through the winter months. Any mail arriving after Nov. 7 will be held for the next group.

Jon M. Van Dyke

## PRISONERS OF WAR IN VIETNAM

(ED. NOTE: The following excerpts are drawn from a paper which Visiting Fellow Jon M. Van Dyke presented for discussion at a recent Center roundtable.)

For the past year and a half, the U.S. has condemned the North Vietnamese for their treatment of captured Americans. The North Vietnamese are portrayed as evil captors who unrelentingly harass American prisoners. The American prisoners are portrayed as virtuous men who find themselves in North Vietnamese prisons through an unfortunate and totally fortuitous series of events. The "prisoner-of-war problem" is depicted as an issue unrelated to the bombing and fighting that have been taking place in various parts of Southeast Asia throughout the past decade.

Although this effort succeeded in persuading the North Vietnamese to adhere more closely to the formal requirements of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War, it is based on two false premises: (1) that the Geneva Convention can be applied without difficulty to the conflict in Vietnam and (2) that the United States and its allies conform to the requirements of the Convention. (The Geneva Convention was drafted in 1949 to deal with the problems of conventional warfare on European battlefields. It is difficult, if not impossible, to apply these provisions to a guerrilla war in Southeast Asia.)

The United States pays only minimal attention to the Convention when it is not in its interest to do so. American soldiers frequently torture captured Viet Cong in order to obtain information about nearby enemy units. Even more frequently, the U.S. permits the Saigon forces to torture prisoners after capture and throughout their period of captivity. The U.S. has failed to punish in any significant way soldiers who have killed or mistreated enemy captives, thus elevating this practice to an official policy. The U.S. also conducts a program of terror to eliminate Viet Cong political cadre a program that operates with total dis-

regard for the safeguards of the Geneva Convention. Finally, because of its desire to give the American public the bleakest possible view of what the enemy's prison camps are like, the Pentagon has muzzled freed Americans who want to talk about the experiences they had in captivity.

The furor that has been created over North Vietnam's prison camps is understandable from a human point of view. There are men in prison who have been separated from their families for a period longer than in any previous war the United States has been involved in. One man has not been in Hanoi over six years.

The furor nonetheless does an injustice to the North Vietnamese, who have probably treated their captives better than any other nation fighting in Asia during this century. During World War II, prisoners of war in Asia were killed and allowed to die with little remorse. Twenty-seven percent of the prisoners held by the Japanese during that war died, and a shockingly high percentage of the Japanese held in Allied camps failed to survive captivity. The treatment of prisoners during the Korean war was at best, primitive. And the handling of captives by the United States and the Saigon government is in many respects worse than that of North Vietnam and the Viet Cong.

It is in this perspective that North Vietnam's prison camps must be analyzed. The most serious charges lodged against the North Vietnamese are the accusations of physical abuse brought back by two pilots a year ago. These charges are serious indeed but the manner in which the Pentagon has handled public information about North Vietnam's camps makes it difficult to accept the statements at face value. The other seven pilots who have been released by North Vietnam have never been formally pro-

Reprinted from the CENTER REPORT Oct. 1970

### COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

POW/MIA FILED 12/12  
CN346,570

EO 12812-2

sented to the press. In fact, they all been told that it would not be beneficial to their military careers to say anything that would interfere with the government's attempts to put pressure on North Vietnam.

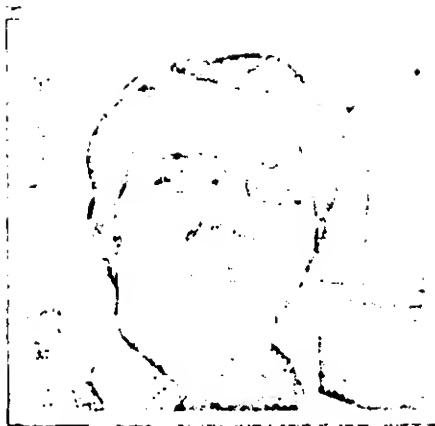
ABC News was finally able to persuade another of the freed pilots to speak last month and he gave quite a different picture of North Vietnam's prison camps. Air Force Captain Joe V. Carpenter said that he had been pushed around a bit when first captured, and was kept separate from the other prisoners, but that he had not suffered in any significant fashion. Physical conditions were not too bad, and he was able to make friends with the North Vietnamese who lived in the neighborhood of his cell.

The complaints lodged against the treatment of prisoners by the Viet Cong in South Vietnam mostly concern the extremely austere lodging and food. Many Viet Cong units are constantly on the run, so that until a prisoner can be taken to a secure area, the prisoner must also be constantly moving. Even in a secure area, the prisoner — like everyone else who lives in the area — must always be on guard for American bombing attacks.

Considering these difficulties, the treatment given to prisoners by the Viet Cong is probably as good as could ever be provided by a revolutionary army. Many of the Americans who have spent time in Viet Cong prisons during the last two years have, in fact, commended the enemy for the treatment received.

In November, 1969, three young G.I.s who had been prisoners for periods ranging from eight months to two years were released by the V.C. After they were transported to an Air Force Base in Japan, they were displayed to the press for fifteen minutes and proceeded to praise the Viet Cong for their treatment. Private Coy R. Tinsley of Cleveland, Tennessee, said, "I'd have to think twice before I'd fight them again after what they did for me. I was wounded. They took real good care of me."

The Army reacted typically to these stories of Viet Cong kindness. High officials decreed in January, 1970, that all soldiers subsequently



*Joe M. Van Dyke, a Center Visiting Fellow, was, until recently, assistant professor of law at the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. With four other law professors, he prepared a brief supporting Massachusetts' statute attacking the constitutionality of the Vietnam war. It was filed with the Supreme Court in August.*

released from enemy prisons would be kept from the press until they had undergone extensive debriefings both in Vietnam and the United States and had gone through a "readjustment" period. The U.P.I. quoted informed military sources as saying that exceptions may be made if the former prisoner is found in his early debriefings to be hostile toward his captors.

The spotlight must be focused on U.S. — Saigon treatment in order to gain perspective on the relative merits of North Vietnam's handling of prisoners.

There are six formal P.O.W. camps run by the Saigon government, with the assistance of U.S. advisors, containing some 33,000 men. These camps are subjected to scheduled and unscheduled inspection by the International Committee of the Red Cross, and they do conform to the Convention's requirements. Many of the Viet Cong who were captured never, however, make it to these formal camps.

There have been a number of trials during the past year of American G.I.s accused of killing Viet Cong prisoners. Despite uncontradicted eye-witness testimony, all of the accused have been acquitted or given extremely lenient penalties. These acquittals must be based on the knowledge of the officers on the court-martial panels that killing of prisoners take place among U.S.

forces in South Vietnam all the time, and the media has confirmed that this is true. Television crewmen have frequently taken film of interrogations torturing suspects, and newsmen have photographed captives being pushed out of American helicopters.

Another large block of captives are deemed not to qualify for formal P.O.W. status by the overly strict standards used by the United States and the Saigon governments, and they wind up in miserable South Vietnamese civilian prisons.

After the International Committee of the Red Cross visited one of these civilian prisons earlier this year — at Con Son Island, with its famous "tiger cages" — they found a group of prisoners of war from North Vietnam and discovered that they were mistreated in the following respects: they were never allowed out of their cells; they were strapped in irons every night from five in the evening to six in the morning; they were permitted to wash only twice a week; they were not given enough fresh food or water, and they were only rarely given fresh clothes.

Subsequently Dr. Marjorie Nelson told the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations that she had regularly treated the victims of beatings and torture inflicted in a South Vietnamese interrogation center that had an American adviser. She said prisoners came to her after "being tortured by electricity with wires attached to ear-nipples and genitalia; being forced to drink concoctions containing powdered lime and other noxious substances; and being tied up and suspended by ropes upside down from the rafters for hours."

The United States government and its allies participate in such atrocities without much apparent concern, while at the same time condemning North Vietnam for its relatively tolerable prisoner treatment.

# WERE THEY TORTURED?

## JON M. VAN DYKE

*Mr. Van Dyke, assistant professor of law at Catholic University, Washington, D.C., is now on leave of absence doing legal research in San Francisco. He is the author of North Vietnam's Strategy for Survival, to be published this year by Pacific Books.*

Two of the American fighting men most recently released from North Vietnam held a press conference in early September to "blow the whistle" on North Vietnam's treatment of its prisoners, but their statements raised more questions than they answered—questions not only about North Vietnam's handling of its captives but also about how the Pentagon is using the released men.

At the elaborately staged press conference in the auditorium of the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, Navy Lieut. Robert F. Frishman and Apprentice Seaman Douglas B. Hegdahl said they had been tortured, by being put in small, ovenlike rooms and exposed to mosquitoes and rats. They also asserted that they had heard that other prisoners had received even worse treatment.

Until this press conference the authorities had not permitted any of the nine freed prisoners to give the press more than the most general information about their experiences. Wives of the pilots still in North Vietnam have similarly been discouraged from talking about the letters they receive from prison. The Defense Department's explanation of this muzzling has been that public discussions might dissuade Hanoi from releasing pilots in the future or cause them to retaliate against those remaining in prison.

After the torture-chamber tales of Frishman and Hegdahl, it seems hard to imagine how additional discussion could jeopardize the pilots remaining in North Vietnam, but the day after the press conference, officers of the Pentagon's Public Information Division phoned the seven other released pilots and told them to stay quiet.

Most of the seven followed these instructions and have continued to elude reporters. However, one pilot who was released in August 1968, Maj. Joe V. Carpenter, expressed surprise at the statements made by Frishman and Hegdahl. Although he would not go into any details because of the orders, Carpenter said he had not been tortured in North Vietnam nor had he heard of anyone being tortured. "In general," he stated, "my treatment was good." When asked why the Defense Department would not allow him to speak freely even after the press conference, Carpenter responded, "It's all part of a plan." The question inevitably arises: what plan?

Aside from the issue of the Pentagon's motives, the details given by Frishman and Hegdahl raise some doubts about their broad charge of "torture." The only first-hand examples they mentioned in their prepared statements were (1) being placed in solitary confinement in small rat-infested rooms with tin roofs which became inordinately hot; and (2) being exposed to mosquitoes which bit their legs until they swelled. These episodes, while certainly unpleasant, are hardly in degree from the

treatment the United States Army gave the Green Beret officers who are charged in the recent slaying of a Vietnamese counterspy. They were placed in solitary confinement in 5 by 7 foot cells with no toilet facilities and only a bare light bulb inadequate for reading. The Green Beret officers complained that their cells became inordinately hot.

Frishman and Hegdahl supported their charge of torture by giving examples of more serious physical harassment suffered by two other pilots. They said that Navy Lieut. Comdr. Richard A. Stratton, who made a well-publicized confession in March 1967, gave his statement only after having been strung up by his wrists and having his fingernails pulled out.

The confession was delivered through a loud-speaker to a Hanoi press conference at which one American photographer and a Japanese television crew were present. An American voice from behind a curtain gave a long statement about the war. When this was completed Stratton appeared from behind the curtain. He bowed deeply several times and then left without speaking. When the American photographer reported this scene, the United States protested that its pilots were being brainwashed, a charge which Frishman and Hegdahl now endorse.

It is hard to believe that Stratton actually had his fingernails pulled out, however, when none of the many persons who have seen him have reported physical harm. Because of the storm of protests which followed Stratton's "confession," North Vietnam invited many visitors, including Americans, to meet Stratton. Nobody reported seeing any scars or missing fingernails. Pictures taken of Stratton when he appeared from behind the curtain show that his hands were visible to the reporters, none of whom reported any injury. Pictures taken of Stratton in prison later show him to be a bit downcast, but in good health.

The second example offered by Frishman and Hegdahl was Navy Lieut. Comdr. John S. McCain III, son of the American Commander in the Pacific. McCain was injured quite severely when he landed in a lake in the heart of Hanoi after trying to bomb the city's main power plant on October 26, 1967. According to the two returned pilots McCain has been kept in solitary confinement during most of his captivity. "It's hard enough just being in solitary confinement," Frishman said, "but when you're wounded like John it's harder." Frishman made no complaint that McCain had actually been physically hurt by the North Vietnamese, so it is difficult to understand why this is an example of torture. Furthermore, McCain was not kept in solitary confinement during the first six months of his captivity when his injuries were most severe. Air Force Lieut. Col. Norris M. Overly said after his release in February 1968 that he had shared a room with McCain.

There are other reasons for wondering about the charges made by Frishman and Hegdahl:

(1) None of the prisoners who had been released earlier complained of unprovoked physical mistreatment. Navy

334 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/31/93 BY 9803

POW/MIA PER EO 12812-CN345,570

THE NATION/October 6, 1968

Lieut. David P. Matheny, who was in February 1968, said that he was beaten on only one but only after he had struck a guard. The pilots, both in the limited public statements they have made and in private discussions with government officials, have uniformly described their treatment as decent. Air Force Maj. Fred N. Thompson, released in August 1968, said that he was obliged to participate in formal interrogation several times, but that the North Vietnamese did not use any threats or pressure during their questioning. When Thompson told his interrogator that a question involved classified matter, the interrogator dropped the subject.

(2) Frishman and Hegdahl gave no hint to the Americans who accompanied them from Hanoi that they had suffered physical mistreatment. Rennie Davis, the leader of the group, said he had long and frank discussions with the men and that they had said nothing about being tortured. Only after the pilots had gone through extensive debriefings did they tell their torture stories.

(3) Hegdahl is a man of limited experience and training who suffered greatly while in North Vietnam, not because of the conditions of prison life but because of his inability to adjust to a situation of confinement. One of the few prisoners who was not shot down while bombing North Vietnam, Hegdahl was captured in the South China Sea after falling off the U.S.S. *Canberra* while it was maneuvering to evade shelling from the North Vietnamese shore. He had grown up in a small town in South Dakota, had enlisted in the Navy at an early age, was only 20 when captured in 1967, and had received none of the conditioning that pilots are given. According to Maj. James F. Low, who had shared a room with Hegdahl for a while before his own release in August 1968, Hegdahl was in a distressed mental state and it was very difficult to live with him. Hegdahl may, therefore, not be the most reliable of commentators on North Vietnam's prisons.

(4) The Pentagon's previous conduct regarding released prisoners has failed to produce a record that inspires trust. After the first group of three pilots was released in February 1968, the Pentagon, with the active assistance of William H. Sullivan, then ambassador to Hanoi, persuaded the pilots to return to the United States on a military plane, despite the express desire of North Vietnam that the representatives of the U.S. peace movement who had received the prisoners in Hanoi be allowed to accompany them on commercial flights all the way home. (See *The Nation*, April 1, 1968.) No additional prisoners were released until the United States promised to allow them to return on commercial flights. An even more serious breach of the spirit of North Vietnam's release occurred in the fall of 1968 when the Air Force assigned two of the three pilots freed in August 1968 to teach other pilots to fly and bomb. It costs about \$300,000 to train a jet fighter pilot, and the North Vietnamese did not like the thought that they were saving the Pentagon money by releasing future teachers. A member of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris complained to Averell Harriman in December 1968, and he arranged for the pilots to be assigned to other duties. Because of this incident North Vietnam apparently canceled a release it had scheduled for early 1969. Rennie Davis

thinks that, by ending Frishman and Hegdahl's make their statement. The Pentagon has discouraged similar gestures in the future.

There are, of course, grounds for criticizing the treatment of American prisoners. North Vietnam refuses to release the names of even the total number of Americans it holds, insisting that this is a state secret which it wishes to retain for bargaining purposes in future negotiations. Partly to keep the number of captive pilots secret, North Vietnam refuses to allow many to write to their relatives. At least 388 and perhaps as many as 800 prisoners are held in North Vietnam. Fewer than 100 have been allowed to write home, and those 100 have written a total of only 600 letters. Also, perhaps, to keep the number secret, many prisoners are held in solitary confinement. This treatment is a clear violation of the requirements of the 1949 Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War (which North Vietnam signed in 1957) and it has had a demoralizing effect on many of the pilots. But until Frishman and Hegdahl spoke, that was all.

However, because the first six pilots who were released had all been in prison for less than eight months, because the prisoners whom Hanoi displayed to reporters tended to be the same ones again and again, and because many of the prisoners have yet to be identified, some U.S. officials devised the "Two Groups" theory. They surmised that North Vietnam treated some prisoners well, so that they would tell the world that the prisons were humane, and so that they could be sent home in good shape when the occasion suited, but that another group was kept in the background and treated badly. The release of Hegdahl after twenty-eight months, and of Frishman after twenty-one months, disrupted this theory, particularly when the two prisoners claimed mistreatment.

Shortly after the Frishman-Hegdahl press conference, some officials at the CIA expanded upon the "Two Groups" idea to suggest that the prisoners may be kept in three separate places. According to this theory, one camp holds those prisoners who cooperate, another those who are unusually difficult, and the third those who are neither cooperative nor difficult. This might explain the difference in treatment reported by the various pilots who have returned, but it poses another question: why would North Vietnam release prisoners who had been tortured?

Another explanation of the difference in treatment was offered by Frishman himself. He said that what he called "torture" may be the doings of jailers who act without the knowledge of North Vietnam's leaders. Frishman stated, as an example, that his conditions improved whenever a North Vietnamese general visited the camp.

North Vietnam's treatment of its prisoners and its method of choosing those it releases may be puzzling, but the behavior of the United States toward those who have been freed is at least as mysterious. After ordering all the released pilots to say nothing, the Pentagon has allowed two of them to tell melodramatic stories, while demanding continuing silence of the others. Before the accounts of Frishman and Hegdahl can be accepted, the other freed prisoners must be allowed to tell their stories.

*GỬI (Addressee)*

HỌ TÊN (Name in full):

SỐ LỊCH (Service number):

NGÀY VÀ NƠI SINH (Date & place of birth):

ĐỊA CHỈ (Address):

TRẠI GIAM PHI CÔNG MỸ BỊ BẮT TẠI  
NƯỚC VIỆT - NAM DÂN CHỦ CỘNG HÒA  
VIA MOSCOW, USSR (Camp of detention for U.S. pilots captured  
in the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of VIETNAM)

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

*NGƯỜI GỬI (Addresser)*

HỌ TÊN (Name in full):

ĐỊA CHỈ (Address):



NGÀY VIẾT (Dated) \_\_\_\_\_

GHI CHÚ (N.B.):

1. Phải viết rõ và chỉ được viết trên những dòng kẻ sẵn (*Write legibly and only on the lines*).
2. Trong thư chỉ được nói về tình hình sức khỏe và tình hình gia đình (*Write only about health and family*).
3. Gia đình gửi đến cũng phải theo đúng mẫu, khuôn khổ và quy định này (*Letters from families should also conform to this proforma*).

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum *All b7c ASR EO 12812-2*

**TO :** DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)  
**FROM :** SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (100-3655) (RUC)  
*b7c*

**DATE:** 11/17/70

**SUBJECT:** COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH  
FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM  
(COLIFAM)  
IS - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT  
OO: New York

*X-112*  
**REC-62**  
*b7c*

Re Albuquerque letter and LHM dated 9/3/70;  
San Antonio letter dated 8/27/70; and Bulet to Albany dated  
10/12/70.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are five copies,  
and for New York two copies, of a letterhead memorandum  
regarding captioned matter.

Referenced San Antonio letter sets forth a list of  
U. S. Air Force prisoners of war and Air Force personnel  
missing in action. Enclosed letterhead memorandum sets forth  
the results of interviews with relatives of prisoners of  
war whose names appear on this list and who reside in the  
Albuquerque Division. Albuquerque does not contemplate  
interviewing relatives of missing in action Air Force personnel  
as there is no indication they are in a prisoner of war status  
and in view of reBulet to Albany, 10/12/70, UACB.

*7/23/93 9803 [redacted] Pw/MIA [redacted] EO.12812 CN345,570*

*5/52/92 [redacted] [redacted] (see dist & form)  
[redacted] CIVIL DISCOVERY*

**REC-54**  
**EX-111**  
*11-41*

**DATE** 9/2/82  
**#** 220,673

- (2) - Bureau (Encs. 5) (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-168469) (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 1 - Albuquerque

9 NOV 20 1970

RECEIVED: [redacted] SER., STATE, CIA

**URE**

**DATE FORW:** 12/10/70  
**HOW FORW:** [redacted]  
**BY:** [redacted]

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE**





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Albuquerque, New Mexico  
November 17, 1970

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH  
FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM

On October 22, 1970, Lieutenant Colonel JOSEPH BLAZINA, Commander, United States Army, Fort Wingate, Gallup, New Mexico, was contacted concerning captioned organization and advised he had no information regarding this organization and knew of no servicemen or relatives thereof who had been contacted by captioned group.

MIA-POW special L7C ED 12812-2  
9803 [REDACTED] 3-22-93  
SP561-41 3-21-92  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/2/82 BY [REDACTED]  
#250,673 762 H3 9803  
POW/MIA ALL INFORMATION  
CN345,570

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

10/6/70

Date

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c advised that she currently resides at [REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] New Mexico.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c advised that at no time has any individual representing themselves with the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Viet Nam contacted her by mail, telephone, or any other manner.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c advised that should she be subsequently contacted by any individual possibly associated with this organization, she will immediately contact the Alamogordo, NM, Resident Agency.

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

FOUO/MIA PER EO 12812-2 CN345,570

On 9/24/70 at [REDACTED] b7c New Mexico File # AQ 100-3655  
by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/30/70

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 10/13/70

All b7c RA 12812-2

1

[REDACTED] furnished the following information:

She is the wife of [REDACTED] an American Air Force pilot currently being held as a prisoner in North Vietnam. She has been active in the past in attempting to gain information concerning her husband and in connection with this, she has heard of an organization known as the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. She understands CORA WEISS and DAVE DELLINGER are active in this organization. She has never been approached personally by anyone claiming to be a representative of this organization. She received one letter from her husband which was dated July 18, 1969, which came to her by mail. However, the entire letter had been placed in a second envelope along with a cover letter of the printed form type containing some instructions on how she could write to her husband. Also enclosed were some forms to be utilized for this purpose. Mrs. [REDACTED] states she did not maintain the envelope or its contents. She is not certain, but she states she might have used one of the forms and tried sending a letter, but she obtained no reply as the letter dated July 18, 1969 is the last word she has heard directly from her husband.

Mrs. [REDACTED] indicated she has been involved in so many different projects and trying to seek information that she does not remember everything in detail. She remembers sending a small package to her husband containing some skin lotion, but she is not certain if she actually attempted to send it through the instructions obtained from this committee or if she only thought about it and later decided to send it by regular international mail. Again, she does not know if it was delivered. She writes at least once a month through the regular international mail and none of the letters have been returned, but none have been answered. She does not know from first-hand knowledge if anyone has had letters actually brought to them by this organization or if they were able to deliver messages or packages to prisoners in

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

CN345576 POW/MIA FILED IN

New Mexico

On 10/8/70

at [REDACTED]

File #

AQ

100-3655

by SA [REDACTED]

Date dictated 10/13/70

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ALL BX AER EO 12812-2

Vietnam. She further advised the information received by mail contained nothing regarding the committee's sources of information or their contacts. She assumes other families have been approached in a similar manner, but she can not identify any specifically. Vietnam

b7c Although Mrs. [REDACTED] never met CORA WEISS, in connection with the above mentioned committee, she did have a short visit with WEISS in Vientiane, Laos, in late 1969. Mrs. [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] also the wife of a prisoner, were in Vientiane attempting to arrange for transportation to North Vietnam and meetings with Vietnamese Officials concerning the status of their husbands. They learned a CORA WEISS, along with MADELINE DUCKLES were staying in the same hotel, and that they had just returned from Hanoi. Mrs. LAOS [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] went to their motel room and learned that WEISS and DUCKLES were just getting ready to leave, but that they would have time to have breakfast together. At this breakfast, WEISS mentioned having interviewed some of the American war prisoners and that they all seemed to be healthy and in good condition. [REDACTED] inquired how long those interviewed had been in custody and how old they were. WEISS immediately took a defensive position to the point where she, Mrs. [REDACTED] got the impression WEISS was defending the North Vietnamese. As Mrs. [REDACTED] recalled, WEISS even had some pictures. Mrs. [REDACTED] learned that WEISS had not talked to either her husband or the husband of Mrs. [REDACTED]. She then found WEISS had not talked to either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] called several other names, and suggested that WEISS try to interview some of them and find out their condition and obtain pictures of them. [REDACTED] told WEISS that then she would be in a position to believe that WEISS was learning the truth. Mrs. [REDACTED] indicated she was getting very upset at this point, and that Mrs. [REDACTED] intervened to calm things down. [REDACTED] stated they learned nothing from their visit with WEISS and DUCKLES. Mrs. [REDACTED] related she was not at all impressed by WEISS. She indicated she would have thought that when two American women met in a foreign country, and when one was seeking information concerning her husband being held in the country from where the other just returned, that there would be a common ground for discussion and that a friendly, if not helpful, attitude would have existed. However, Mrs. Vietnam LAOS b7c b2c

All b7c per EO 12812-2

AQ 100-3655

3

b7c  
[redacted] stated that it was her impression WEISS was after publicity. [redacted] asked concerning the possibility they had brought any messages and WEISS indicated they had none with them. She remembers mentioning to WEISS that she had not received any word from her husband, to which WEISS replied that mail was probably being detained by the State Department. She got the impression that WEISS honestly believed the prisoners were sending out mail, but that the State Department was intercepting it.

b7c  
Mrs. [redacted] relates she is not sympathetic with any of the peace groups which are attempting to establish communications between families and prisoners because she feels it hinders the families' chances of establishing contact. She continued by explaining that she felt it possible that if the North Vietnamese did not have the peace groups to deal with, that they might then deal with the International Red Cross. She further states she does not feel her husband would approve of dealing with such organizations and for this reason, too, she stays away from them. She substantiated this opinion by indicating that when in Laos, she spoke to a North Vietnamese Official asking if he could deliver the small package she had for her husband. She was then told that she should bring it back to the United States and give it to one of the peace groups for handling. She related that should she possess any information which might be useful testimony, that she would be willing to testify at any time.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c per ED 12812-2

Date 11/2/70

Mrs. [REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED] b7c  
 [REDACTED] advised that she currently resides at [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] New Mexico.

b7c Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that her husband, [REDACTED] b7c  
 [REDACTED] is currently a PW of the North Vietnamese; and this  
 she learned officially from a telephone call from Lieutenant  
 Colonel A. W. GRATCH, United States Air Force, Directorate of  
 Personnel Services, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, on [REDACTED]  
 1970. Even though his name was officially released as a PW  
 on that date, she was aware of her husband's status prior to  
 this date and had, on occasion, forwarded letters to her husband  
 via the American Friends Service Committee, Inc., of 160 N.  
 15th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c  
 advised that the following letters have been received from this  
 organization:

1. A letter dated December 15, 1969, American  
 Friends Service Committee, Inc., signed by [REDACTED]  
 LOUIS W. SCHNEIDER, Associate Executive Secretary b7c
2. A letter dated January 20, 1970, American  
 Friends Service Committee, Inc., signed by [REDACTED] b7c  
 LOUIS W. SCHNEIDER and ROGER G. FREDRICKSON [REDACTED]

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c advised she has no objection to releasing  
 these letters for any possible value to this inquiry.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c advised that she has also been in  
 contact with the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen  
 Detained in North Vietnam, 365 W. 42nd Street, New York,  
 New York (COLIAFAM). Her only contact has been via these  
 enclosed letters and there has been no attempt to force their  
 services on her on the part of COLIAFAM and each of these  
 attached letters represent her receipt of a communication from  
 her husband, [REDACTED] Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c  
 advised that she has forwarded mail to this organization  
 which has been, she presumes, subsequently delivered to her  
 husband. Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that the Directorate of  
 Personnel Services, Lieutenant Colonel A. W. GRATCH, at Randolph  
 Air Force Base, Texas, is aware of this correspondence and she

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

CHINA 4426272-0345

On 10/21/70 at [REDACTED]

File # AQ 100-3655

by SA [REDACTED] b7c

Date dictated 10/27/70

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presumed this method of letter exchange was officially sanctioned.

*b7c EO 12812-2*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that she did not desire to do anything which might tend to jeopardize her husband as a PW and if this meant testifying before any type of body, she would most assuredly refuse to do so. Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that the following letters represent all of her correspondence from the COLIAFAM group: *b7c*

1. Letter dated April 7, 1970, Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, signed CORA WEISS and DAVE DELLINGER
2. Letter dated April 20, 1970, Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, signed STEVEN E. ~~HALLIWELL~~
3. Letter dated May 4, 1970, Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, signed from Rev. ~~RICHARD FERNANDEZ~~
4. Letter dated May 13, 1970, Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, signed BARBARA ~~WEBSTER~~
5. Letter dated June 14, 1970, Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, signed BARBARA WEBSTER
6. Letter dated September 14, 1970, Committee of Liaison, signed CORA WEISS
7. Letter dated September 18, 1970, Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, signed CORA WEISS

AMERICAN FRIEND SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.



160 North Fifteenth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  
Phone 215 563-9372

HENRY BLERITS

HENRY J. CADBURY

BRONSON P. CLARK

January 20, 1970

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietmy (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64 American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Liaison  
with Families of Service  
men detained in North  
Vietnam  
365 W. 42nd Street  
New York, New York

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Benh Vien Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi in keeping with a long-standing Quaker concern for civilian sufferers on both sides of a war.

Following my departure from North Vietnam I traveled on to Quang Ngai in South Vietnam to visit the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) rehabilitation project for civilian casualties.

I have asked my colleagues in Philadelphia to mail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptly that your letter has safely arrived in Hanoi and was given to the appropriate North Vietnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addressee.

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

67c  
EO 12812-2  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PER E.O. 12812

Most sincerely yours,

for: Louis W. Schneider  
Roger G. Fredrickson

RF/h

AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.



160 North Fifteenth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1910.  
Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY BLUMS

HENRY J. CADBURY

BRONSON P. CLARK

December 15, 1969

Dear Friend,

This is but a brief note to acknowledge receipt of your letter addressed to your family member who is being held as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

My current plans call for me to arrive in North Vietnam on or about 26 December at which point I hope to be able to turn your letter along with a large number of other letters from the immediate families of men being held to the appropriate authorities of the Democratic Republic of North Vietnam, along with my request that the letters be delivered to the individual prisoners.

After my return to the United States I will write to you again to let you know whether it was possible to deliver the letters.

Most sincerely yours,

Louis W. Schneider  
Associate Executive Secretary

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
CN 346,570 POW/MIA [redacted] EO 12812

62c  
EO 12812-2

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

April 7, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Folk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

Our Committee has recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held in North Vietnam. By now you should have b7c

heard that [REDACTED] is on this list. The North Vietnamese have now confirmed through the Committee of Liaison a total of 335 men being held.

This notification also means that a letter is en route from him. The enclosed release explains how mail is forwarded via our office. Because mail from Hanoi is very slow we cannot be sure when the letter will come, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here.

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

Sincerely,

*Francis Dave Dellinger*  
Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger

P.S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c  
CN349,570 POW/MIA PER EO 12812

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

All b7c ~~to~~ ED 12812-2

April 20, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

Rev. Richard Fernandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a two-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He brought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed air-letter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

Steven E. Halliwell  
Steven E. Halliwell

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

POW/MIA FILED 12812 CN345570

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

May 4, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dove Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Modeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Folk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez  
To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed  
prisoners held in North Vietnam  
Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

\*staff

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803  
POW/MIA ACU FO 12812-2315510

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members want to write.

12812-2

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adhere to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letters on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowd of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their



families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

### CABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

### Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger

Cora Weiss

May 13, 1970

### Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Dear friend:

### Committee

Richard J. Barnett

Rennie Davis

Madeline Duckles

Prof. Richard Falk

Rev. Richard Fernandez

Norman Fruchter

\*Maggie Geddes

Steve Halliwell

Prof. Donald Kalish

Stewart Meacham

Prof. Bea Seitzman

Prof. Franz Schurmann

Ethel Taylor

\*Barbara Webster

Trudi Young

Today we received two packages of letters which we have been expecting from prisoners held in North Vietnam. The total number of letters in both packages was 156. Although the packages were mailed a month apart, they both arrived here today.

We are very happy to send herewith the letter addressed to you.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Webster*

Barbara Webster

\*staff

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

CN345,570 POW/MIA PU EO 12812

62c

EO 12812-2

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

June 14, 1970

### Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. If you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Webster*  
Barbara Webster

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9903

670  
EO 12812-2  
POW/MIA PR EO 12812 CN 345,570

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON  
365 West 42 Street, New York, N.Y. 10036  
212-KI9-4478

September 14, 1970

Dear friends:

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letter to you which just arrived with 142 others from Hanoi. This is the first mail since June because no one has travelled to North Vietnam during the summer. The Vietnamese no longer rely on unpredictable postal channels as experience has proven it delayed and risky. Therefore, they wait for travellers to guarantee safe and rapid delivery.

We are also enclosing some letter forms for your convenience.

Visitors to North Vietnam usually let us know of their departure and are willing to take mail with them. A number of people are planning to go this fall and winter, and we would be happy to forward your mail for you. Kindly seal the letter forms, even if they contain photos, and do not affix stamps.

To ease some of the administrative difficulties in North Vietnam, including translation, you might consider typing your letters on the suggested letter form, with a clear signature.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us, and kindly inform us of any changes in address to facilitate further forwarding of mail.

Sincerely,

*Cora Weiss*

Cora Weiss

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PL E012812 12812-2

# COMMITTEE OF AISON

*with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam*

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

September 18, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Friends,

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letters to you. I would like to give you an account of the events that took place around the illegal seizure of these letters at Kennedy Airport on Wednesday. You would have had your mail a day or two earlier had it not been for this interference.

Robert Scheer announced when he left Hanoi that he had been given 379 letters from pilots whose names appeared on the list of 335 previously confirmed prisoners. Mr. Scheer, with a delegation of 10, had spent three months in Algeria, North Korea, China, and North Vietnam, and had accumulated a wide range of materials. However, U.S. Customs officials at Kennedy Airport were interested only in the whereabouts of the letters. Mr. Scheer opened the two packets of letters for the Customs officials to see. They then took him into a private room and demanded that he turn over the mail, saying, "We must open it and read it." He refused to hand over the letters as they had been consigned to him for immediate delivery to families. Finally, the Customs officials agreed to place the letters in bond, where the packages were officially sealed and a receipt given to Mr. Scheer.

(Last Saturday 143 letters were brought by a traveller returning from Hanoi. That brought to 1243 the number of letters from prisoners that have been delivered by hand to the U.S. without interference.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA FILED 12812

62c  
EO 12812-2

No explanation has been offered by anyone for the seizure of the mail, and no guarantees have been made that this will not happen again. On Thursday afternoon the State Department assured me that the mail was available to be claimed and expressed concern that it be forwarded immediately to relieve anxiety of waiting families. We reminded the State Department that it was the government that had seized the mail in seeming disregard for the families, prisoners, and the future of communication between them. Mr. Scheer offered to meet with representatives of the State Department at the airport to discuss the situation and see what could be done to prevent future occurrences of this nature. His request was rejected. When he went with Rennie Davis and myself to reclaim the mail, he was unnecessarily harrassed, and the press was ejected from observing the reclamation, despite the fact that the very same people had observed the seizure. When he finally got the letters, Mr. Scheer immediately transferred them to the Committee of Liaison for distribution.

We are very distressed about this incident. This delivery of mail brought first letters from previously confirmed prisoners for four families, some of whom had had no mail for five years. We have devoted considerable time and effort to maintaining a reliable and efficient channel for communication between you and the pilots. At the initiative of the North Vietnamese both the volume and frequency of mail has increased. The pilots have been receiving increasing numbers of packages, including a wide assortment of food, medicines, clothing and various kinds of games. We are not responsible for the consequences that acts of governmental interference may produce.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us if you have any questions, and kindly inform us of any changes of address. Should you wish us to forward mail to your relatives in North Vietnam we will be glad to do so. There will be several people travelling there in the coming months.

Sincerely yours,

*Cora Weiss*  
Cora Weiss

FBI

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

Date: 11/6/70

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via A I R T E L

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)

FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-10986) (P)

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

IS - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

POW/MIA P/EO 12812  
CN 345,570

(OO: NEW YORK)

Re New York airtels to Bureau, 6/8/70 and 7/14/70;  
and Charlotte airtel to Bureau, 10/13/70, enclosing LHM.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 11 copies of LHM  
regarding captioned organization; three copies are enclosed  
for New York.

Investigation at [REDACTED] N. C., was conducted  
by SA [REDACTED], and at [REDACTED] N. C., by SA [REDACTED]

Investigation continuing.

Deleted Copy Sent  
by Letter Dated [REDACTED]  
Per FOIPA Request [REDACTED]

- ③ - Bureau (Encls - 11)  
2 - New York (100-168469) (Encls - 3) (RM)  
2 - Charlotte

AGENCY: ARMY, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER., STATE, OMA

REC-24

NOV 11 1970

RAD (ISD, ORD, CD, IDIU)

DATE FORW: 11/18/70

HOW FORW: RIS

BY: [REDACTED]

cc + encl 910-D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

57 DEC 1 1970

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Charlotte, North Carolina  
November 6, 1970

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN  
NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/83 BY 9805 [redacted]

POW/MIA/101292  
01343,570

Bo 12/12-2 b7c

On November 3, 1970, Mr. [redacted] North Carolina, advised he is the father of [redacted] who was shot down over Vietnam and is missing in action. He stated that neither he nor [redacted] wife or mother have had any contact with the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam regarding [redacted]

The following individuals were contacted at [redacted] North Carolina, at which time they advised they have never heard of captioned organization or been contacted by any member: Bo 12/12-2 b7c

Mr. [redacted] phone missing  
[redacted] father of [redacted]  
in action since October, 1966.

Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] phone missing  
[redacted] parents of [redacted]  
in action since September 17, 1968. Bo 12/12-2 b7c

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS  
NOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE FBI. IT IS THE PROPERTY  
OF THE FBI AND IS LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY; IT AND  
ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE  
YOUR AGENCY.

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OTHERWISE

100-451199-178  
ENCLOSURE

RE: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

2012812-  
67c

Mrs. [REDACTED] phone [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED] missing  
in action since April 1, 1967.

Mrs. [REDACTED] phone [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED] missing  
in action since August 2, 1965.

Mrs. [REDACTED] phone [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED]  
missing in action since March 16, 1966.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/7/70

On September 29, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] was interviewed at her residence, [REDACTED] North Carolina, and furnished the following information:

Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that her husband was taken prisoner in May three years ago, and until January, 1970, she had not received any communication from her husband. Between January, 1970, and September, 1970, she has now received eight letters, all delivered through COLIFAM. She advised that she personally talked to two members of COLIFAM in January, 1970, on the telephone, and they were ETHEL TAYLOR and STEWART MEACHAM. She stated the phone calls concerned her getting letters from her husband. Each time a letter was delivered Mrs. [REDACTED] stated, it was delivered in a plain white envelope marked Committee of Liaison, Second Floor, 365 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, 10036. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that by communication with her husband through this organization, it appears that her husband has not actually received any of her letters but he has received some packages. Mrs. [REDACTED] furnished a list of letters and newspaper clippings which reflect her communication with COLIFAM. She stated she would be willing to furnish any additional information to the FBI when she receives it.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

FOIA b7E  
CN 345,570

On 9/29/70 at [REDACTED] N. C. File # CE 100-10986  
by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/29/70

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE ICE COMMITTEE INC.



160 North Fifteenth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  
Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY DEERITS

Chairman

HENRY J. CADBURY

Executive Chairman

BRONSON P. CLARK

Executive Secretary

December 15, 1969

Dear Friend,

This is but a brief note to acknowledge receipt of your letter addressed to your family member who is being held as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

My current plans call for me to arrive in North Vietnam on or about 26 December at which point I hope to be able to turn your letter along with a large number of other letters from the immediate families of men being held to the appropriate authorities of the Democratic Republic of North Vietnam, along with my request that the letters be delivered to the individual prisoners.

After my return to the United States I will write to you again to let you know whether it was possible to deliver the letters.

Most sincerely yours,

Louis W. Schneider *LH*  
Associate Executive Secretary

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA MED 12812

*62c*  
*EO 12812-2*

*4*

62c  
411 57c 12812-2  
COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam  
365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036 (212)765-1490

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

We are enclosing a letter to you from [redacted] written from a camp of detention in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The letter is forwarded to you through the newly formed Committee of Liaison of which we are members.

This letter, along with 49 others, was recently handed to Louis Schneider by Vietnamese authorities in Hanoi, and he mailed them to us from Hong Kong. This was in-line with a system for handling such letters which has been opened up to our Committee by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The Committee of Liaison is composed of individuals active in the American peace movement and opposed to the U.S. military intervention in Vietnam. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam has decided to use our Committee as a channel for communication between the captured airmen in detention camps in North Vietnam and their relatives in the United States.

Please excuse the fact that this letter is dictated rather than typed on letterhead. We are a new committee and we want you to receive the enclosed without delay. Therefore we are mailing this letter immediately without waiting for printed letterhead and envelope.

We shall send you further information within the next few days regarding the liaison services our Committee is now able to perform.

In closing we wish to express the deep hope that the U.S. government will come to its senses, withdraw its armed forces from Vietnam, and thus make it possible for the families, both American and Vietnamese which have been separated as a result of this cruel war, to be reunited.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/92 BY [redacted]  
REASON: [redacted]  
CAMP 5870

Sincerely yours,  
For the Committee of Liaison

MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Richard [redacted]  
Clare and [redacted]  
Concerned about Vietnam

Other members of the Committee  
Rennie [redacted]  
Steve [redacted]

David [redacted]  
[redacted]

62c

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.

160 North Fifteenth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  
one 215-563-9372

HENRY DEERITS  
*Chairman*

HENRY J. CADBURY  
*Honorary Chairman*

BRONSON P. CLARK  
*Executive Secretary*

January 20, 1970

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietmy (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64 American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Liaison  
with Families of Service  
men detained in North  
Vietnam  
365 W. 42nd Street  
New York, New York

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Benh Vien Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi in keeping with a long-standing Quaker concern for civilian sufferers on both sides of a war.

Following my departure from North Vietnam I traveled on to Quang Ngai in South Vietnam to visit the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) rehabilitation project for civilian casualties.

I have asked my colleagues in Philadelphia to mail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptly that your letter has safely arrived in Hanoi and was given to the appropriate North Vietnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addressee.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

CN 345,570

FOIA/HIA #12912

Most sincerely yours,

for: Louis W. Schneider  
Roger G. Fredrickson

RF/h

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street New York, N.Y. 10018

212-765-1490

January, 1970

ED 12812-2

62c

## Co chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

## Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

## Committee (in formation):

Rennie Davis  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Margot Gueles  
Steve Halliwell  
Steven Maccham  
Prof. Ben Seitzman  
Ethel Taylor  
Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young  
staff

## INFORMATION SHEET

### Background

In the course of the Vietnam war, links have been built between the people of Vietnam and Americans who oppose the war through numerous meetings and conferences. These meetings have taken place in Europe, Canada, Cuba and Southeast Asia and have included people from both the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam (now part of the Provisional Revolutionary Government).

### MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

In these meetings the Vietnamese have always stressed a distinction between the U.S. government, whom they hold responsible for the policy of war, and the U.S. people, whom they believe still value the goals upon which this country was founded--independence, justice, freedom and equality. This same distinction is evident to those Americans who have visited North Vietnam and found that even though the nation is armed to defend itself, the people are encouraged by their government to believe that the American people are basically decent and humane.

It is therefore understandable that the Vietnamese should indicate their basic confidence in the American people through the peace movement which they believe embodies American ideals, rather than the government. And in the past, the Vietnamese have asked the peace movement to receive U.S. servicemen--primarily pilots whose planes were shot down--when the North Vietnamese government has decided to release them. On three separate occasions--February 1968, July 1968 and July 1969--the peace movement has gone to Hanoi and returned with released servicemen; on one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia to receive three released NLF captives.

In addition, Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters there at the request of families, and have brought back letters from servicemen. There have also been occasions when American peace activists have met prisoners and talked with them.

### Functions of the Committee

A Committee of Liaison has now been established as an extension of these past efforts at the request of the North Vietnamese. As on past occasions, the peace movement is responding to a request by the Vietnamese to meet a specific, immediate need and is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

The Committee will seek to facilitate communication between families in the U.S. and servicemen now imprisoned in North Vietnam. Basically, the Committee will receive letters from servicemen and forward them through the domestic mails, thereby decreasing, we hope, past problems in the receipt of such mail. We will also forward letters to North Vietnam at the request of relatives. Families are of course still free to send letters and parcels directly but should note that the instructions on mailing previously issued by the State Department are wrong. The correct address is:

name of serviceman  
serial number  
Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots  
Captured in the D.R.V.  
Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam

Via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Additionally, it is possible that the U.S. Armed Forces will be able to verify



requests for information about servicemen from families who are uncertain if their relatives are being held in North Vietnam. Requests should be submitted to the Committee, but there is no certainty when and if the North Vietnamese will be able to respond. The Committee will of course transmit immediately any information that it receives to the family.

#### Clarification

Two clarifications are in order: first, it should be noted that the Committee will be dealing solely with the government of North Vietnam and will not have any information on men held in South Vietnam by the Provisional Revolutionary Government. Nor will we be able to provide information at this time concerning men held in Laos or any other South east Asian country where U.S. troops and aircraft are presently involved in combat missions.

Secondly, the Committee will function entirely apart from the U.S. government. The U.S. government has frequently made it more difficult for the Vietnamese to be open to the concerns of American families by using the families' genuine desires as a propaganda ploy. The government has further attempted to provoke an angry response from the Vietnamese by publicizing unsubstantiated and inflammatory testimony from fliers already released: apparently, the government has decided to jeopardize existing communications and the possibility of future releases for the sake of propaganda aimed at prolonging the war. The North Vietnamese are also very aware that the U.S. government's claims of humanitarian concerns are contradicted by the well-documented policy of torture and brutality practiced on prisoners taken in the South by U.S. and Saigon troops.

In addition to all these factors, there is the simple fact that the resolution of the fate of all the servicemen now held in North Vietnam waits ultimately upon a U.S. decision to end the war and withdraw all its forces and materiel.

#### Who We Are

We firmly believe that the safe return of these men and the half million others that the U.S. maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and aboard naval vessels--who can also be viewed as prisoners, prisoners of their own government since many have been sent to fight in a war against the dictates of their own conscience--can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will continue our efforts to create popular pressure strong enough to force the government to withdraw.

We are active in a variety of organizations committed to ending the war: American Friends Service Committee, the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Clergy and Laymen Concerned about Vietnam, Women Strike for Peace, The Conspiracy, and Women Against Daddy Warbucks. The Committee is supported by donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.

R

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

MAILING ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

January 28, 1970

Chairmen:  
Dove Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation):

Rennie Davis  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
\*Maggie Geddes  
\*Steve Halliwell  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
\*Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

Though we certainly hope that you have received the letter sent to you from North Vietnam by this time, we understand that there has been trouble with its delivery. The letter has not been returned to this office (its return address), and Stewart Meacham is still checking through the post office in Philadelphia.

While we are attempting to find out what the difficulty is, we thought we should send you our Information Sheet, so that you might know what the Committee of Liaison is.

As noted in the Sheet, letters will be periodically sent from North Vietnam to families in this country. The families will be able to send letters once a month (note the mail address on the Sheet), and packages less than 6 pounds in weight once every other month. We are also enclosing a letter form which you may wish to use in writing back to your husband, once you do receive his letter.

Again, we hope that you have heard or will hear soon, and understand the frustration this must have caused you and your family.

Sincerely,

Maggie Geddes  
Maggie Geddes

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c  
CN346,570 POW/MIA FILED 12812

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

ABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

ALL BYC PER 12812-2

April 20, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee:

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear [REDACTED] b2c

Rev. Richard Fernandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a two-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He brought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed air-letter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

Steven E. Halliwell

Steven E. Halliwell

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b2c

CN345,570 POW/MIA FILED 12812

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

TABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

RECEIVED  
CN345,570

May 4, 1970

**Co-chairmen:**

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

**Treasurer:**

Mrs. Anne Bennett

**Committee:**

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Gaddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schumann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez  
To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed  
prisoners held in North Vietnam  
Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

**\*staff**

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adhere to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letters on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowd of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

## TABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

## Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

May 13, 1970

## Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Dear friend:

## Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter

Today we received two packages of letters which we have been expecting from prisoners held in North Vietnam. The total number of letters in both packages was 156. Although the packages were mailed a month apart, they both arrived here today.

\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

We are very happy to send herewith the letter addressed to you.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Webster*  
Barbara Webster

\*staff

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

CN 345,570

FOUO/MIA FILED 12812

62c

EO 12812-2

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee:

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

May 25, 1970

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

Just a note to let you know  
that we will send your recent  
letter to your husband, along with  
the photographs, to North Vietnam  
with a group of anti-war people  
who are going there in June.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Webster

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

CN345,570 POW/MIA PM EO 12812

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

## Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

## Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

June 14, 1970

## Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

## \*staff

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. If you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webster  
Barbara Webster

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

FOUO/MIA/MEC 12812 CW 345,370

62c

EO 12812-2

15



COMMITTEE OF LIAISON  
365 West 42 Street, New York, N.Y. 10036  
212-KI9-4478

September 14, 1970

Dear friends:

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letter to you which just arrived with 142 others from Hanoi. This is the first mail since June because no one has travelled to North Vietnam during the summer. The Vietnamese no longer rely on unpredictable postal channels as experience has proven it delayed and risky. Therefore, they wait for travellers to guarantee safe and rapid delivery.

We are also enclosing some letter forms for your convenience.

Visitors to North Vietnam usually let us know of their departure and are willing to take mail with them. A number of people are planning to go this fall and winter, and we would be happy to forward your mail for you. Kindly seal the letter forms, even if they contain photos, and do not affix stamps.

To ease some of the administrative difficulties in North Vietnam, including translation, you might consider typing your letters on the suggested letter form, with a clear signature.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us, and kindly inform us of any changes in address to facilitate further forwarding of mail.

Sincerely,

*Cora Weiss*

Cora Weiss

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

POW/MACO 12812 CN3451570

62-  
EB 12812-2

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families

Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

September 18, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Coro Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee:

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Friends,

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letters to you. I would like to give you an account of the events that took place around the illegal seizure of these letters at Kennedy Airport on Wednesday. You would have had your mail a day or two earlier had it not been for this interference.

Robert Scheer announced when he left Hanoi that he had been given 379 letters from pilots whose names appeared on the list of 335 previously confirmed prisoners. Mr. Scheer, with a delegation of 10, had spent three months in Algeria, North Korea, China, and North Vietnam, and had accumulated a wide range of materials. However, U.S. Customs officials at Kennedy Airport were interested only in the whereabouts of the letters. Mr. Scheer opened the two packets of letters for the Customs officials to see. They then took him into a private room and demanded that he turn over the mail, saying, "We must open it and read it." He refused to hand over the letters as they had been consigned to him for immediate delivery to families. Finally, the Customs officials agreed to place the letters in bond, where the packages were officially sealed and a receipt given to Mr. Scheer.

(Last Saturday 143 letters were brought by a traveller returning from Hanoi. That brought to 1243 the number of letters from prisoners that have been delivered by hand to the U.S. without interference.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PUEO 12812

62c 12812-2  
ED

No explanation has been offered by anyone for the seizure of the mail, and no guarantees have been made that this will not happen again. On Thursday afternoon the State Department assured me that the mail was available to be claimed and expressed concern that it be forwarded immediately to relieve anxiety of waiting families. We reminded the State Department that it was the government that had seized the mail in seeming disregard for the families, prisoners, and the future of communication between them. Mr. Scheer offered to meet with representatives of the State Department at the airport to discuss the situation and see what could be done to prevent future occurrences of this nature. His request was rejected. When he went with Rennie Davis and myself to reclaim the mail, he was unnecessarily harrassed, and the press was ejected from observing the reclamation, despite the fact that the very same people had observed the seizure. When he finally got the letters, Mr. Scheer immediately transferred them to the Committee of Liaison for distribution.

We are very distressed about this incident. This delivery of mail brought first letters from previously confirmed prisoners for four families, some of whom had had no mail for five years. We have devoted considerable time and effort to maintaining a reliable and efficient channel for communication between you and the pilots. At the initiative of the North Vietnamese both the volume and frequency of mail has increased. The pilots have been receiving increasing numbers of packages, including a wide assortment of food, medicines, clothing and various kinds of games. We are not responsible for the consequences that acts of governmental interference may produce.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us if you have any questions, and kindly inform us of any changes of address. Should you wish us to forward mail to your relatives in North Vietnam we will be glad to do so. There will be several people travelling there in the coming months.

Sincerely yours,

*Cora Weiss*  
Cora Weiss

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

Date 10/7/701

On September 25, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> was interviewed at her home at [REDACTED] North Carolina, and furnished the following information:

Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> stated that since her husband has been declared missing, she has received no mail from him. She stated that she has attempted to write to her husband through the American Friends Service Committee, 160 North Fifteenth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19102, and this committee was suggested to her by the Casualty Office at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. She advised that the Casualty Office notified her that a KENNETH KIRKPATRICK was going to Hanoi in June, 1970, and would take any letters over at that time. Mr. KIRKPATRICK's address was listed as Peace Education Secretary, AFSC, 814 Northeast 40th Street, Seattle, Washington, 98105. Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> stated she wrote a letter on June 3, 1970, and sent it to KIRKPATRICK in Washington, and she received a letter back on July 27, 1970, stating that he was unable to deliver the letter due to the fact that Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> husband was not on Hanoi's POW list. She advised that in the letter from KIRKPATRICK was a list of POW's furnished by the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM). She stated that this is the only contact she has had with this group.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup>

CNSWS,570

POW/MIA PER EO 12812

On 9/25/70 at [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> N. C. File # CE 100-10986

by SA [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> Date dictated 9/29/70

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

AN HIL PER ED 12812-2

Date 10/7/70

On September 24, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] **b2c**  
 was interviewed at her home, [REDACTED]  
 North Carolina, and furnished the following information:

Mrs. [REDACTED] **b2c** stated that she has never received any mail from her son in nearly four years since he was shot down flying. She stated that she has written to her son on a number of occasions and has dealt with only two different organizations. She stated one was the National League of Families of American Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia on Constitution Avenue, Washington, District of Columbia, and the other was United We Stand organized by H. ROSS PEROT in Dallas, Texas. Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that no other members of her family have ever been contacted by any other organization.

**b2c**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/13/83 BY 9803 [REDACTED] **b2c**

CH215,570 PWD/MH/ED12812

On 9/24/70[REDACTED] **b2c**  
H. C.File # CE 100-10986by SA [REDACTED] **b2c**Date dictated 9/29/70

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All 62c PER EO 12812-2

Date 10/7/701

Mr. [REDACTED] <sup>62c</sup> was interviewed at his home, [REDACTED] North Carolina, and furnished the following information:

Mr. [REDACTED] <sup>62c</sup> stated that he has not heard from his son since he was shot down flying. He advised that he has not been in contact with any organizations attempting to deliver letters to his son. He advised that his wife had made several trips to Washington in attempts to discover additional information concerning their son.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

POW/MIA PER EO 12812 CN 345,570

On 9/24/70 at [REDACTED] <sup>62c</sup> N. C. File # CE 100-10986

by SA [REDACTED] <sup>62c</sup> Date dictated 9/29/70

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c RE ED 12812-2

Date October 16, 1970

Mrs. [REDACTED] North Carolina, advised that she is the mother of [REDACTED] who is a pilot in the United States Air Force. Mr. [REDACTED] was not present at the beginning of this interview, but came home just as the interview with Mrs. [REDACTED] concluded.

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that her son, along with seven crew members departed from Thailand on [REDACTED] 1969, in a [REDACTED] on a mission and never has been heard from since. Mrs. [REDACTED] noted that her son, [REDACTED] was the Aircraft Commander. She said that the information she received from the United States Air Force revealed that weather conditions held up the proper performance of her son's first mission, and he was directed to another area, and while en route to the second area, apparently was hit by enemy aircraft fire and his plane was last seen crashing in [REDACTED] and fellow pilots in the immediate area saw no parachutes or life in the immediate crash area.

Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that neither she nor her husband or [REDACTED] wife, [REDACTED] has received any communication or been contacted by the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM). She did state that they have communicated with the American Red Cross National Headquarters, Washington, D. C. 20006, The United States Air Force, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78148, PRINCE SOUPHANOUBONG, care of M. SOT. PETIRASI, MEO LAO HAK. SOT., representative, Vientiane, Laos, and finally they obtained an address from a newspaper of P. O. Box 7777, Washington, D. C., which she wrote to and received periodicals concerning families that have relatives in the hands of the North Vietnamese. She noted that this last address advertised that if she wrote, they would forward her communications to the proper individuals, who could furnish her letter to her son if he was held captive in North Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] said that they have never received any positive information concerning their son, [REDACTED] in regard to whether he survived the crash of his airplane. Mrs. [REDACTED] furnished the following

On 10/5/70 at [REDACTED] North Carolina File # CE 100-10986

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 10/12/70

CE 100-10986

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

b7c  
address of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] b7c

b7c Mrs. [REDACTED] stated after her husband, Mr. [REDACTED] arrived at their home that neither she nor her husband could furnish any further information concerning this matter and that she would immediately contact the FBI in the event that any of their family was contacted by any individual concerning her son.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

Date October 29, 1970

Mr. [REDACTED] b7c  
 advised he received a call from an officer stationed at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, where his brother, [REDACTED] was stationed asking his permission to furnish his name to a Committee of Liaison With Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. The officer stated this Committee had a letter from [REDACTED] addressed to him and they needed his permission to furnish his name to the Committee so the letter could be sent him. Mr. [REDACTED] advised he inquired of the officer if there were strings attached as he was not going to get involved in any blackmail. The officer assured him the Committee was O.K. so he gave his permission.

b7c Mr. [REDACTED] advised since this he has received two letters. He is certain the first letter was from his brother as information in the letter would have been only known to his brother. The second letter was fairly general and he cannot be certain. Mr. [REDACTED] has received no other correspondence. No one from the Committee has contacted him in person or by letter.

b7c Mr. [REDACTED] advised he sends vitamins and other items to his brother through the Randolph Air Force Base but has not furnished nor been requested to give money or food through the Committee.

b7c Mr. [REDACTED] advised his brother's co-pilot is also detained and he is in touch with the co-pilot's wife who resides in Florida. She was also contacted by an officer from Randolph Air Force Base regarding her permission for her name to be furnished this Committee.

b7c Mr. [REDACTED] offered his cooperation and will report any contact made by this Committee.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

POW/MIA PER EO 12812 CN395,570

On 10/22/70 at [REDACTED] North Carolina File # CE 100-10986

by SA [REDACTED] b7c Date dictated 10/28/70

UNITED STATES ( ) ENT

# Memorandum

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)

DATE: 11/17/70

FROM : SAC, KNOXVILLE (100-4101) (P)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN  
NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
IS - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT  
(OO: NY)

Re New York airtel to Bureau 6/9/70.

Enclosed for the Bureau and New York is one copy each of an FD-302 showing the results of an interview with [REDACTED] Tenn., 11/5/70. The original of the FD-302 is contained in the Knoxville file 100-4160.

Mr. [REDACTED] upon interview, informed agents that he has not been contacted by any member of the COLIFAM group and is of the opinion that he will not be contacted. He advised that from the circumstances reported to him of the disappearance of his son two years ago he does not believe there can be any hope that he is still alive. Mr. [REDACTED] advised that should he be contacted by any such group, he will immediately inform the FBI.

- ② - Bureau (100-457899) (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-168469) (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 3 - Knoxville (2 - 100-4101)  
(1 - 100-4160 C)

11 NOV 23 1970

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
CN345,570 PWD/MIA per EO 12812

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All 6X 12812-2

1Date November 17, 1970

b7c  
[redacted] residence address [redacted] advised that he is the father of [redacted] in the U. S. Air Force. Mr. [redacted] advised that he has been informed by a representative of the Air Force that his son is missing in action and from the circumstances he is of the opinion that his son is dead. b7c

b7c  
According to Mr. [redacted] his only contact concerning his son has been with the representative of the Air Force and as far as he knows there has been no attempt by any group or committee to contact him. He stated that he has no information of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam and is positive that this group has not made any effort to contact him. He further advised that no one has attempted to deliver any personal objects to him that might have belonged to his son nor has he received any communications through the mail indicating that anyone or any committee could do this for him.

b7c  
Mr. [redacted] further advised that he does not know of any other family in the Chattanooga area that has a relative missing who has been approached by the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. He stated that should any such information come to his attention, he will immediately make this information known.

b7c  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
POW/MIA FILE 12812 CN 343,570

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE~~

b7c  
On 11/5/70 at [redacted] Tenn. File # KX 100-4160

by SA [redacted] SA [redacted] Date dictated 11/10/70

ENCLOSURE

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>BALTIMORE</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE <b>11/20/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>7/17/70 - 11/5/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>U COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA [REDACTED] b7c</b>	TYPED <b>[REDACTED]</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS-MISCELLANEOUS; REGISTRATION ACT</b>	<b>b7c</b>

REFERENCES:

Baltimore airtel to Bureau dated 7/21/70.  
 San Antonio letter to Bureau dated 8/27/70.  
 Baltimore letter to Bureau dated 9/28/70.  
 Bureau letter to all offices dated 10/12/70.  
 Norfolk report of SA [REDACTED] dated 10/27/70.

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

Extra copies of this report are being furnished to the Bureau for any appropriate dissemination deemed advisable.

LEADS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7/13/13 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

CN 345,570 POW/MIA CASE D812

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:  PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC	AUTO	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED <b>[REDACTED]</b>							SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE:							DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
⑦ - Bureau (100-457899) (Registered Mail) 2 - New York (100-168469) (Registered Mail) 1 - Norfolk (100-6833) (Info) (Registered Mail) 3 - Baltimore (100-27337)							<b>100-457899-180</b> <b>15 NOV 28 1970</b> <b>REC-3</b> <b>ST-1</b>	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report							Notations	
Agency	HRNY, OSI, NIS		1116-750					
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.	11/24/70							
How Fwd.	RIS							
By	[REDACTED]							

54 DEC 2

COVER PAGE

A

All 67c MR ED 12812-2

NORFOLK (INFORMATION)

A copy of this report is being furnished to Norfolk in view of investigation outstanding in that Division concerning this matter.

BALTIMORE DIVISIONAT [REDACTED] MARYLAND b7c

1. Will recontact Mr. [REDACTED] Maryland, and arrange to obtain copies of a tape recording his daughter, [REDACTED] obtained when she attended a meeting in Washington, D.C., where CORA WEISS spoke as co-chairman of COLIFAM.

It is noted that Mr. [REDACTED] stated that the tape recording was located at [REDACTED] residence.

2. Will obtain any additional information he may possess concerning COLIFAM and this organization's activities.

AT [REDACTED] MARYLAND b7c

Will contact [REDACTED] National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, for any information she might possess concerning any other families contacted by COLIFAM regarding POW's and MIA's in Southeast Asia.

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND b7c

Will maintain contact with Mr. [REDACTED] Maryland, concerning any contacts by COLIFAM.

For the information and assistance in covering the above leads, will attempt to identify other POW families who may have been approached by COLIFAM. Extreme discretion should be used during the course of interviews. Advise individuals interviewed that the interview is at the direction J. WALTER YEAGLEY, Assistant Attorney General. Also determine if the individual interviewed would be willing to cooperate should their testimony be needed at a later date. Interviews should be set forth on FD 302.

COVER PAGE

B\*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*All b7c PER EO 12812-2*

## Copy to:

Report of:  
Date:

SA [REDACTED] *b7c*  
NOVEMBER 20, 1970

Office: BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Field Office File #:

BA 100-27337

Bureau File #: 100-457899

Title:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH  
FAMILIES OF SERVICE MEN  
DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM  
(COLIFAM)

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY -  
MISCELLANEOUS,  
REGISTRATION ACT

Synopsis:

Relatives of Prisoners of War (POW's) *b7c*  
and Missing in Action (MIA) in Southeast Asia  
contacted and interviewed. Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Maryland, father of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] shot down [REDACTED] 1965, was  
contacted by representative from Womens Strike For  
Peace, New York, by letter in December, 1969.  
Envelop contained letter from son and note from  
ETHEL TAYLOR from Philadelphia representing Committee  
of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Returned in  
North Vietnam (COLIFAM). Mr. [REDACTED] daughter, [REDACTED] *b7c*  
attended a meeting in Washington, D.C. where CORA  
WEISS, Co-chairman of COLIFAM spoke. [REDACTED] daughter  
took notes and coordinated notes she took on a tape.  
Mr. [REDACTED] has met Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ, "Society of Friends"  
a Quaker Organization, and has been contacted by MAGGIE  
GEDDES by telephone, member of COLIFAM, which concerned  
the receipt of letters from his son. Mrs. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Maryland, mother of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] received letter from CORA WEISS in September, *b7c*  
1970 expressing regret for delay in forwarding a letter  
from her son, which had been conviscated by the U.S.  
Government upon its arrival at Kennedy Airport,  
New York.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] *b7c*

POW MIA per EO 12812  
CN345,570

-P-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

BA 100-27337

DETAILS:

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c REC ED 12812-2

Date 7/21/70

b7c  
 Mrs. [REDACTED] was interviewed at [REDACTED] Maryland, Telephone [REDACTED]

b7c  
 Mrs. [REDACTED] is the wife of [REDACTED] United States Navy, who is reportedly a prisoner of war, who is carried as missing in action. Her home address of record is [REDACTED] Virginia, telephone # [REDACTED]

b7c  
 Mrs. [REDACTED] is currently visiting Baltimore to assist in caring for her mother, who is seriously ill.

b7c  
 Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that her husband was reported missing in action in [REDACTED] 1966. He was the Pilot aboard the aircraft which was navigated by [REDACTED] relative resides in [REDACTED] New Jersey. She has been in touch with the Naval Intelligence personnel in Norfolk concerning her missing husband and has also been in touch with her brother-in-law, and brother of her husband, [REDACTED]

b7c  
 [REDACTED] concerning her husband. Since her husband was declared missing she has received no word to indicate that he was being held captive by the North Vietnamese.

b7c  
 In March, 1970, she attended a gathering of wives whose husbands were missing in action, at the home of Mrs. [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] Virginia. She was introduced to Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ and another Reverend DUFFEY. Reverend DUFFEY was acquainted with Mrs. [REDACTED]. Reverend FERNANDEZ was affiliated with the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM).

b7c  
 She described Reverend FERNANDEZ as being an extremely nervous individual and he informed them that it was the organizations objective to exchange correspondence

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 DATE 7/22/73 BY 9803  
 PAM/MIA/CA/ED 12812-2  
 CAP 5670

7/21/70

Maryland, [REDACTED] NO-2733

SA [REDACTED]

7/20/70



between the captives in North Vietnam and relatives in this country. He also instructed them as to how they should address their letters and each woman at this meeting gave FERNANDEZ their husband's name, names and their own names and addresses.

Mrs. [REDACTED] gave her husband's name as well as her own name and address to FERNANDEZ at this meeting, however, she has not received any word from this group and she was under the opinion that her card became lost. To date she has not written to this committee for any assistance in verifying the fact that her husband might be alive and held captive in North Vietnam. She has received no mail or inquiries from anyone concerning her husband other than occasionally she received information from the Intelligence Unit of the United States Navy regarding any recent developments concerning the publication of names who are listed as captives held by the North Vietnamese. Mrs. [REDACTED] claims that she writes letters to her husband once a month and sends packages every two months. She has never received any of the letters or packages back. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she had taken notes regarding the meeting at Mrs. [REDACTED] home in [REDACTED] concerning the gathering where Reverend FERNANDEZ appeared, however, she was not certain whether she retained these notes which she believes are at her [REDACTED] residence.

Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that if necessary she would be willing to testify to the above in a court of law.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL 67C MR ED 128122

July 30, 1970

...with the Committee of Liaison with Families of Detainees Retained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM).

On April 1, 1970, she received a long distance telephone call from GENE WILKS in New York City telephone number 212-549-1478. She did state that she was GENE WILKS and did represent some organization which Mrs. [redacted] could not recall. She said she had just returned from Miami, and that there was a "letter in the mail" for them from their son.

The [redacted] were already aware that their son was a prisoner through notification by the Air Force. No other information was furnished by WELLS and she did not ask any questions.

The letter was received shortly thereafter around April 17, 1970, post marked Hanoi. Their son had indicated he did receive their letters and packages.

The [redacted] continue to write letters twice a month and send a package every two months. Only their first package mailed in December, 1966 was returned.

Although the [redacted] received two pieces of correspondence from COLIFAM, one dated April 7, 1970 signed by CORA WHIES and DAVE BULLINGER and the other dated May 4, 1970 from Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ, both from New York, they have never contacted this organization.

The first letter confirmed their son's name was listed as being held by North Vietnam and the second letter provided instructions on sending communications to the prisoners held in North Vietnam.

Mrs. [redacted] advised that she was willing to cooperate should her testimony be needed at a later date.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCLASSIFIED

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1812

of 534,000

On 7/24/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # BA 100-27337  
by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 7/30/70

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

All b7c PER EDO 12812-2

Date 8/28/70

b7c  
[redacted] was contacted at her residence, [redacted]. She was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent, the purpose of the interview and that the interview was being conducted at the direction of J. Edgar Hoover, Assistant Attorney General. Thereafter, she was interviewed and furnished the following information:

b7c  
She is the wife of [redacted] missing in action since [redacted] 1963. She has received four or five letters from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM, ) which all occasions except one, had enclosed two letters from her husband, presently a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam. She first received her husband's letters from COLIFAM on December 24, 1969.

b7c  
Mrs. [redacted] advised she had never been contacted telephonically or personally by anyone representing COLIFAM. She knows of no other Prisoner of War Family in the Wilmington, Delaware area. She advised she would immediately notify the FBI should she be contacted by a representative of COLIFAM.

She made available one of the COLIFAM form letters which she had received dated May 13, 1970. A copy of the letter follows:

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [redacted] b7c

PAW/HIA AL EDO 12812  
CA345,670

On 8/13/70 at [redacted] Delaware File # BA 100-27337  
by SA [redacted]  
Date dictated 8/19/70

# COMMITTEE OF LI/ SON

with Families. Servicemen Detain. North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

BLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

Chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

Staff

May 13, 1970

Dear friend:

Today we received two packages of letters which we have been expecting from prisoners held in North Vietnam. The total number of letters in both packages was 156. Although the packages were mailed a month apart, they both arrived here today.

We are very happy to send herewith the letter addressed to you.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Webster*  
Barbara Webster

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
CN245,570 POW/MIA #0012812

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EO 12812-2

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

All 6X RE ED 12812-2 Date 8/28/70

b2c

Mrs. [REDACTED] was interviewed and advised that she is the wife of [REDACTED] U.S. Air Force, and who has been confirmed by the U.S. Air Force as a Prisoner of War since [REDACTED] of 1967 as a Prisoner of War Camp in North Vietnam.

Mrs. [REDACTED] has received through the U.S. Mails two mimeographed letters from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, one of which was dated April 7, 1970 and the latter dated May 4, 1970. She also received through the U.S. Mails a letter dated January 20, 1970 from the American Friends Service Committee, Inc.

Mrs. [REDACTED] was made available for whatever use deemed necessary by the FBI, all three letters, and requested only that they be returned to her upon completion of use by the FBI.

Mrs. [REDACTED] has not replied to either Committee as a result of their correspondence.

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

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On 8/28/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # 100-27337  
by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 8/28/70

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

April 7, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

Our Committee has recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held in North Vietnam. By now you should have

heard that [REDACTED] b7c  
is on this list. The North Vietnamese have now confirmed through the Committee of Liaison a total of 335 men being held.

This notification also means that a letter is en route from him. The enclosed release explains how mail is forwarded via our office. Because mail from Hanoi is very slow we cannot be sure when the letter will come, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here.

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

Sincerely,

*Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger*  
Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger

P.S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

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DATE 7/23/83 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

CN345,570 POW/MIA EO 12812

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

## INFORMATION SHEET

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation):

Nennie Davis  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Maggie Gaddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Ethel Taylor  
Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

Staff

### Functions of the Committee

The Committee of Liaison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are, of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

Name of serviceman, serial number  
Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured  
in the D.R.V.  
Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam  
via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in weight) every other month. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that letters sent to the Committee for forwarding be sealed and that stamps be enclosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packets.

The Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been shot down over North Vietnam.

The Committee also is able to request information regarding the status of men thought to have been shot down over North Vietnam and captured there. Inquiries the Committee needs to have the individual's service number, and any available information as to when and where he was shot down. With respect to such requests the Committee would expect to receive a letter to his family if the individual is being held in North Vietnam. If the individual is known to be dead or if the North Vietnamese have no information regarding him, the Committee expects to receive that word to the extent possible. In any case the Committee will communicate with the family concerned as soon as it receives word. In this way we expect that, as Xuan Thuy, head of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, has said, gradually all families of servicemen held in North Vietnam will hear from their relatives.

### Background

The Committee of Liaison has been established in response to an initiative

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DATE 7/23/83 BY 9803

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created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

Since 1965 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam (from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

#### The Committee

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. servicemen captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard naval vessels can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organizations and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

ABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

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DATE 7/23/83 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

(212) 765-1490

CN845,970

RECEIVED MAY 4 1970

b7c 12812-2  
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May 4, 1970

Chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Macadam  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez  
To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed  
prisoners held in North Vietnam  
Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adhere to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letters on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowd of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

HENRY BEERITS  
Chairman  
HENRY J. CADBURY  
Honorary Chairman  
BRONSON P. CLARK  
Executive Secretary

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  
Phone 215-563-9372

January 20, 1970

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietmy (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64 American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Liaison  
with Families of Service  
men detained in North  
Vietnam  
365 W. 42nd Street  
New York, New York

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DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

CN36570 POW/MIA ACT 1982

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EO 12812-2

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Benh Vien Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi in keeping with a long-standing Quaker concern for civilian sufferers on both sides of a war.

Following my departure from North Vietnam I traveled on to Quang Ngai in South Vietnam to visit the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) rehabilitation project for civilian casualties.

I have asked my colleagues in Philadelphia to mail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptly that your letter has safely arrived in Hanoi and was given to the appropriate North Vietnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addressee.

Most sincerely yours,

*Roger G. Fredrickson*

for: Louis W. Schneider  
Roger G. Fredrickson

RF/h

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c b7D EO 12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 983 [redacted] b7c

Date 9/14/70

POW/MIA, MIA 12812 CND 5570  
[redacted] b7c

[redacted] Maryland, was interviewed and advised that his son, [redacted] holds the rank of [redacted] in the United States Navy and on [redacted] 1965 was shot down over North Vietnam and believes he is now a captive at a Detention Center in North Vietnam.

Mr. [redacted] b7c stated that he and his wife received a letter, December 21, 1969, from the Women's Strike for Peace, somewhere in New York. He stated he did not know the exact return address on the letter but recalls that the return address was the Women's Strike for Peace.

He stated that inside this letter was a six line letter which indicated that his son received a Christmas package in February of 1968 and also a package in October of 1968, however this letter did not mention any previous letters that Mr. [redacted] and his wife had sent to his son. The letter did include the fact that he sent his love to his wife and children.

b7c He stated that this first letter from his son carried a mixture of emotions. He advised he did not believe that it was written by his son at the time but has since changed his mind and believes that his son is alive. He stated that the envelope which held the letter also had a note in it from a woman named ETHEL TAYLOR from Philadelphia.

He further advised that the letter itself was mailed from Philadelphia and that ETHEL TAYLOR was an individual who is part of a group called the Committee of Liaison with families of servicemen detained in North Vietnam. He further stated that ETHEL TAYLOR did make a tour and go to Hanoi and then to Paris.

Mr. [redacted] b7c then advised that he received a second letter

On 9/3/70 at [redacted] Maryland File # BA 100-27337

SA [redacted] b7c 9/6/70

Date dictated

b7c  
from his son sometime in April of 1969. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that he believed this letter was also from his son. He then advised that several days later he received a long distance telephone call from New York from the Committee of Liaison and advised that they told him that they had a letter addressed to his son's wife, [REDACTED] who was residing in [REDACTED] New Mexico. Mr. [REDACTED] advised that his daughter-in-law did receive a letter and that she did send a copy of the letter to him. b7c

b7c  
Mr. [REDACTED] b7c stated that since his son had been shot down he has maintained close liaison with the Navy Department and that he contacted them upon the receipt of the letters. He further stated that the Navy Department feels the letters are letters written by his son and furthermore stated that they took one of the letters and compared handwritings and did state that the handwriting from the letters was written by their son, even though Mr. [REDACTED] did question the handwriting. b7c

Mr. [REDACTED] stated that he and his wife belong to a group who really has no official name, but as a group consists of parents of servicemen who are believed to be prisoners in North Vietnam. He stated that he and his wife are personally acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] who reside in [REDACTED] but that he does not know of any other families in the area who have sons who are believed to be prisoners. b7c

He further advised that he had a copy of a letter sent to him by MAGGIE GEDDES, and that this letter was written on stationery from the Committee of Liaison and that on the left hand side of the paper are names of the co-chairman, treasurer and committee members. Mr. [REDACTED] further stated that he recognized the name of one of the co-chairmen, DAVE DELLINGER, and b7c

the name of a committee man, RENNIE DAVIS, as being individuals involved in the Chicago riots.

15. [REDACTED] further stated that his daughter, [REDACTED] attended a meeting in Washington, D.C., where a woman named CORA WEISS, a co-chairman of the Committee of Liaison, was a speaker and that his daughter, [REDACTED] claimed that the entire group involved in this Committee of Liaison was anti-American. He [REDACTED] stated that his daughter attended this meeting for him and that she took notes and recorded the notes she took on a tape and sent them to him, but that he does not have this tape in his possession.

He advised that the tape is at his other home, located at [REDACTED] telephone number [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] further advised that he does have other items that perhaps would interest the FBI in their investigation and that he also believes that this group is un-American.

He further stated that in spite of the group being un-American it represents the only contact he and his wife have with their son, but that he would be willing to cooperate with the FBI and testify to anything that he knows which would assist them in their investigation.

[REDACTED] further advised that on one occasion, he met another of the committee men named Rev. RICHARD FERNANDEZ. He stated that Rev. FERNANDEZ was a missionary in the "Society of Friends", which he believed was a Quaker organization.

[REDACTED] added that this is the only person that he has ever met personally involved in the group and that the other contact has been with JEOGIE CEDRES, by telephone and EDNA LYNN by letter. He stated that at no time did any of these three individuals ask for any kind of contributions from him or any anything which he might consider subversive. He stated that the only thing he has to indicate the group is un-American is the tape, at his home in [REDACTED] which was made by his daughter. [REDACTED] He stated he would be happy to turn over a copy of this tape to the FBI if they needed it.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

All b7c MIA 12812-2

Date 9/28/70

MRS. [REDACTED] Maryland, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

MRS. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] United States Navy, is her son, and was reported missing in action after being shot down while on a mission over North Vietnam on 1967.

MRS. [REDACTED] advised that in November, 1967, the North Vietnamese released the names of 14 American Servicemen being held as prisoners, among which was the name of her son. MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she started receiving letters and postcards from her son in April, 1968 and has received a total of approximately 18 or 19 to date. All the letters have been addressed to her residence and have been written to her, wife, his in-laws and his grandparents.

[REDACTED] residing in [REDACTED] for the past couple of years but is presently visiting with her at [REDACTED]

MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she has had no personal contact with the "Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM)", but added that all of her son's letters since January, 1970 have been forwarded to her Cambridge residence with a cover letter from COLIFAM. She stated that she has not acknowledged any of the letters sent through COLIFAM, nor has she corresponded with them in any manner. She stated that the cover letters from COLIFAM were form letters and were signed by CORA WEISS, Co-Chairman. MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she would report any additional pertinent information in this regard to the FBI. She stated that she would cooperate if her testimony is needed at a later date.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

POW/MIA 12812-2  
CN345,570

On 9/25/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # BA 100-27337

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/28/70



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c PER 6612812-2

Date 9/28/70

[REDACTED] was interviewed at [REDACTED] Maryland, and furnished the following information:

[REDACTED] stated that her husband, [REDACTED] United States Navy, was reported missing in action on [REDACTED] 1967 after being shot down while on a mission over North Vietnam. She stated that she had been residing in [REDACTED] since that time. MRS. [REDACTED] learned that her husband was being held as a prisoner in North Vietnam in November, 1967 when the North Vietnamese released the name of her husband, along with 13 other American Servicemen being held there.

MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she received her first letter from her husband in April, 1968, addressed to her mother-in-law's residence at [REDACTED] Maryland. Her mother-in-law, MRS. [REDACTED] resides at [REDACTED] Maryland. All of the letters received from her husband have been addressed c/o [REDACTED] address. MRS. [REDACTED] forwards all of her son's letters to her in [REDACTED]. Among those who have received letters from her husband c/o the [REDACTED] address are MRS. [REDACTED] grandparents, MRS. [REDACTED] parents and MRS. [REDACTED] and all the letters have been received through the United States Mails. The fourth letter from her husband dated August 30, 1968 was mailed from Warsaw, Poland and arrived at [REDACTED] in November, 1968. One letter was brought into the United States in August, 1968 with RENNIE DAVIS when he arrived in the United States with three Servicemen who had been released by the North Vietnamese. Another letter was forwarded to [REDACTED] by the American Friends Service Center, San Francisco, California in November, 1969.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/92 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

PW/MIA 6612812-1  
CN345510

On 9/25/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # BA 100-27337

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/28/70

ALL HC PER EO 12812-2

BA 100-27337 b7c

2

b7c MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she has had no contact with the "Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam" (COLIFAM), but added that all of the letters from her husband arriving at [REDACTED] Maryland since January, 1970 have been forwarded by COLIFAM with a form cover letter. She stated that she has not acknowledged these letters, nor has she written letters of appreciation to them. MRS. [REDACTED] stated that no one in the family, who has received letters from her husband have been contacted personally by anyone from COLIFAM, nor have any of them corresponded with COLIFAM. She stated that they have received a total of approximately 18-19 letters written by her husband since April, 1968. b7c

b7c MRS. [REDACTED] advised that the "National League of Families of American Servicemen Missing in South East Asia" are holding a convention at the Marriott Twin Bridges Motel, Washington, D.C. on October 2-4, 1970. MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she is allowed to write to her husband once a month, and she has never sent any of the letters through COLIFAM, nor has any other member of the family. She stated that she has sent letters to her husband from [REDACTED] and the United States and her husband's letters have indicated that he has received some of these letters, along with some of those sent by members of his family from the United States. b7c

b7c MRS. [REDACTED] made available copies of the COLIFAM cover letter dated September 14, 1970, which accompanied a letter from her husband dated May 6, 1970, sent to his mother and grandmother, and a COLIFAM cover letter dated September 18, 1970, which accompanied a letter from her husband dated June 25, 1970 sent to her. b7c

b7c MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she has no intention of contacting COLIFAM in any manner, nor has any member of the family any such intention. MRS. [REDACTED] stated that she would cooperate if her testimony is needed at a later date and would forward any pertinent information in this regard to the FBI. b7c

BA 100-27337  
[REDACTED] 67-60 12812-2

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON  
365 West 42 Street, New York, N.Y. 10036  
212-KI9-4478

September 14, 1970

Dear friends:

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letter to you which just arrived with 142 others from Hanoi. This is the first mail since June because no one has travelled to North Vietnam during the summer. The Vietnamese no longer rely on unpredictable postal channels as experience has proven it delayed and risky. Therefore, they wait for travellers to guarantee safe and rapid delivery.

We are also enclosing some letter forms for your convenience.

Visitors to North Vietnam usually let us know of their departure and are willing to take mail with them. A number of people are planning to go this fall and winter, and we would be happy to forward your mail for you. Kindly seal the letter forms, even if they contain photos, and do not affix stamps.

To ease some of the administrative difficulties in North Vietnam, including translation, you might consider typing your letters on the suggested letter form, with a clear signature.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us, and kindly inform us of any changes in address to facilitate further forwarding of mail.

Sincerely,

Cora Weiss  
Cora Weiss

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] 67-60 12812-2

CN345,570

POW/MIA pt 6012512-60

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ For your information: DELETED FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER  
12812-2

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-457899-180 PAGES 23

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**COMMITTEE OF L. CON**

**with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam**

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

**CABLE ADDRESS:**

COLIAFAM

September 18, 1970

**Co-chairmen:**

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Dear Friends,

**Treasurer:**

Mrs. Anne Bennett

**Committee**

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Macdonald  
Prof. Ben Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

**\*staff**

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letters to you. I would like to give you an account of the events that took place around the illegal seizure of these letters at Kennedy Airport on Wednesday. You would have had your mail a day or two earlier had it not been for this interference.

Robert Scheer announced when he left Hanoi that he had been given 379 letters from pilots whose names appeared on the list of 335 previously confirmed prisoners. Mr. Scheer, with a delegation of 10, had spent three months in Algeria, North Korea, China, and North Vietnam, and had accumulated a wide range of materials. However, U.S. Customs officials at Kennedy Airport were interested only in the whereabouts of the letters. Mr. Scheer opened the two packets of letters for the Customs officials to see. They then took him into a private room and demanded that he turn over the mail, saying, "We must open it and read it." He refused to hand over the letters as they had been consigned to him for immediate delivery to families. Finally, the Customs officials agreed to place the letters in bond, where the packages were officially sealed and a receipt given to Mr. Scheer.

(Last Saturday 143 letters were brought by a traveller returning from Hanoi. That brought to 1243 the number of letters from prisoners that have been delivered by hand to the U.S. without interference.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803

6345,570 POW/MIA pr 60/2812

b6c  
b7c  
4882-2

No explanation has been offered by anyone for the seizure of the mail, and no guarantees have been made that this will not happen again. On Thursday afternoon the State Department assured me that the mail was available to be claimed and expressed concern that it be forwarded immediately to relieve anxiety of waiting families. We reminded the State Department that it was the government that had seized the mail in seeming disregard for the families, prisoners, and the future of communication between them. Mr. Scheer offered to meet with representatives of the State Department at the airport to discuss the situation and see what could be done to prevent future occurrences of this nature. His request was rejected. When he went with Rennie Davis and myself to reclaim the mail, he was unnecessarily harrassed, and the press was ejected from observing the reclamation, despite the fact that the very same people had observed the seizure. When he finally got the letters, Mr. Scheer immediately transferred them to the Committee of Liaison for distribution.

We are very distressed about this incident. This delivery of mail brought first letters from previously confirmed prisoners for four families, some of whom had had no mail for five years. We have devoted considerable time and effort to maintaining a reliable and efficient channel for communication between you and the pilots. At the initiative of the North Vietnamese both the volume and frequency of mail has increased. The pilots have been receiving increasing numbers of packages, including a wide assortment of food, medicines, clothing and various kinds of games. We are not responsible for the consequences that acts of governmental interference may produce.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us if you have any questions, and kindly inform us of any changes of address. Should you wish us to forward mail to your relatives in North Vietnam we will be glad to do so. There will be several people travelling there in the coming months.

Sincerely yours,

*Cora Weiss*  
Cora Weiss

b7c  
EO 12812-2

NGÀY VIẾT (Dated) 25 June 1970

b7c  
EO 12812-2

## GHI CHÚ (N.B.):

1. Phải viết rõ và chỉ được viết trên những dòng kẻ sẵn (*Write legibly and only on the lines*).
2. Trong thư chỉ được nói về tình hình sức khỏe và tình hình gia đình (*Write only about health and family*).
3. Gia đình gửi đến cũng phải theo đúng mẫu, khuôn khổ và quy định này (*Letters from families should also conform to this proforma*).

BA 100-27337

[REDACTED] b7c

On October 5, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] Maryland, advised SA [REDACTED] that she had received correspondence from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. It requested that she send the organization a letter for her husband, [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] who may be a prisoner of the North Vietnamese. She stated that she could not recall the name of the individual sending her correspondence in this regard, but advised that she did send a letter to the organization which was returned to her in early August, 1970, with a notation that her husband's name was not on a list of 335 prisoners maintained by the North Vietnamese and therefore, they would not accept a letter for him. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c advised that she was previously contacted by the same group, believed to be in late winter of 1968 and that she, together with 13 other relatives of prisoners of North Vietnamese, traveled to Washington, D.C. and conferred with Secretary LAIRD of the Department of Defense and the secretary of the Air Force. She was not sure, and could locate no records, but believed this organization was captioned the National League of Families of American Prisoners Missing in Southeast Asia.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c stated that her husband was a phantom Air Force jet fighter pilot shot down during a raid in North Vietnam in [REDACTED] 1968 and that she believed her husband to be dead. b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

CN345570 POW/MIA pu EO 12812



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

All b7c per EG 12812-2

Date 10/15/70

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] Maryland, was telephonically contacted on October 5, 1970 in an effort to arrange a time and date for an interview.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c inquired as to the nature of the proposed interview at which time she was advised that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) upon direct request of the Assistant Attorney General, U. S. Department of Justice, was conducting investigation with regards to The Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM).

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c readily stated that this committee and information relating to her son's capture and imprisonment by the North Vietnamese was a matter of public information and recently appeared in the New York Times and other Newspapers.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c subsequently recontacted Special Agent [REDACTED] at the Silver Spring, Maryland, Resident Agency, and volunteered the following information:

She is the mother of Air Force [REDACTED] b7c, who was shot down over North Vietnam on [REDACTED] of 1967. She subsequently received confirmation from the Department of the Air Force on [REDACTED] 1969 that her son was a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c a widow, received a letter from CORA WEISS, postmarked New York City, New York, sometime during the latter part of September 1970, whereby CORA WEISS expressed her regret in forwarding a letter from her son to her which had been confiscated by the U. S. Government upon it's arrival at Kennedy Airport, New York. Accompanying this letter from CORA WEISS was a letter from her son who was being held captive in North Vietnam.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/23/93 BY 9802

00345570 POW/MIA AC 601712

On 10/5/70 at [REDACTED] b7c Maryland File # 100-27337

by SA [REDACTED] b7c Date dictated 10/9/70

ALL b7C PER EO 12812-2

Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> stated that no future meetings or correspondence was proposed by CORA WEISS nor were contributions or donations sought after.

Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> subsequently wrote a letter to CORA WEISS, care of COLIFAM, New York City, New York, thanking both CORA WEISS and the organization she represented for furnishing her a letter from her son.

Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> was of the opinion that her daughter-in-law, Mrs. [REDACTED] had received mail from her son through COLIFAM, however, could not be certain.

She has had no further communication or correspondence with CORA WEISS or COLIFAM.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c P52 ED 12812-2

1Date October 12, 1970

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c  
 Maryland, was contacted at her residence on October 6,  
 1970 by SA [REDACTED] FBI, [REDACTED]  
 Maryland, Resident Agency and the nature of the interview  
 explained to Mrs. [REDACTED]

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c stated that she is the wife of Air  
 Force [REDACTED] who has been missing in action in  
 Vietnam since [REDACTED] 1967.

She related that she has had no correspondence  
 or communication with the Committee of Liaison with  
 Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam  
 (COLIFAM) although she was knowledgeable of this  
 organization.

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c was reluctant to discuss the matter  
 further, henceforth the interview was terminated.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b7c

POW/MIA FILED 12812  
 CN345,576

On 10/6/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # BA 157-27337  
 by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 10/8/70 b7c

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All b7c ~~FOI~~ ED 12812-2

Date 10/15/70

[REDACTED]  
 Maryland, was furnished the identity of Special Agent [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] Federal Bureau of Investigation, Silver Spring,  
 Maryland, Resident Agency, and advised of the official nature  
 of the interview.

Mr. [REDACTED] voluntarily furnished the following infor-  
 mation:

He is the father of Air Force [REDACTED]  
 who was shot down over Vietnam and confirmed as Missing in  
 Action by the Department of the Air Force on [REDACTED] 1966.

[REDACTED]  
 In June of 1970, he received permission from the  
 Department of State to visit Paris, France, and meet with the North  
 Vietnamese Delegation in connection with the Peace talks held  
 in Paris, France, during June of 1970.

Prior to his departure from the U. S., he met with  
 high ranking officials in the State Department and Air Force  
 whereby he received instructions and briefings which were  
 of intrinsic value to him.

Mr. [REDACTED] explained that although his son was never  
 confirmed by the Air Force as a Prisoner of War, word of mouth  
 returned from a former prisoner of war in North Vietnam indicat-  
 ing that his son was actually a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/3/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

On 10/7/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # 100-27337

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 10/12/70

All b7c PER EO 12812-2

He stated that he was successful in meeting with representatives of the North Vietnamese Republic for a thirty minute meeting in Paris, France, however, received no recognition from the delegates as to the imprisonment of his son [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c  
He returned to the United States approximately one month later.

Mr. [REDACTED] b7c stated that while he was in Paris, he maintained close liaison with the American Embassy and reported the results of that meeting to officials of the State Department and Air Force upon his return to the United States.

Mr. [REDACTED] b7c has had no communication or correspondence with the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL b7c PER ED 12812-2

Date 10/15/701

Mrs. [REDACTED] b2c  
 [REDACTED] Maryland, telephonically contacted Special Agent [REDACTED] on October 7, 1970, at the Silver Spring, Maryland, Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) after Special Agent [REDACTED] had unsuccessfully attempted to locate Mrs. [REDACTED] at her residence on October 6, 1970. b2c

Mrs. [REDACTED] b2c inquired as to the nature of the proposed interview at which time she was advised that the Department of Justice, at the request of the Assistant Attorney General, was conducting investigation concerning the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM). b2c

Mrs. [REDACTED] b2c readily stated that she has had no communication or correspondence with COLIFAM since her son, Air Force [REDACTED] was shot down over North Vietnam on [REDACTED] 1968, and confirmed as missing in action, henceforth it would serve no purpose to arrange a later and personal interview.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b2c

CN345,570 POW/MIA #16 012812

On 10/7/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # 100-27337

by SA [REDACTED] b2c Date dictated 10/12/70

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

All b7c A2 E- 1287-2

Date 10/15/70

Mrs. [REDACTED] Maryland, telephonically contacted Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] on October 7, 1970, at the Silver Spring, Maryland, Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) after SA [REDACTED] had unsuccessfully attempted to locate Mrs. [REDACTED] at her residence on October 6, 1970. b2c

Mrs. [REDACTED] inquired as to the nature of the proposed interview at which time she was advised that the Department of Justice had been requested to conduct investigation at the request of the Assistant Attorney General concerning an organization known as the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. b7c b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] readily stated that she has had no communication or correspondence with this Committee since her husband, Air Force [REDACTED] who was shot down over North Vietnam on [REDACTED] 1968 and confirmed as missing in action, henceforth, it would serve no purpose to arrange a later personal interview. b2c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/23/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b2c

CN345570 POW/MIA FILED 12/12/70

On 10/7/70 at [REDACTED] Maryland File # 100-27337

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 10/12/70 b7c